

JOE DONNELLY

UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR INDIANA

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

JOE'S PROVISIONS
SIGNED INTO LAW:

12 IN 2017

35 OVERALL
SINCE 2013

INCLUDING LEGISLATION TO:

- Improve servicemember mental health
 - Address the opioid epidemic
- Recognize our veterans

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

In 2017, Joe worked effectively to serve Hoosiers. Twelve of his provisions were signed into law last year and, since he began serving in the Senate in 2013, he has had 35 measures enacted overall. Joe was successful in advancing legislation through his tireless efforts and by partnering with Republican colleagues. His bipartisanship is driven by his belief that the best way to represent Hoosiers is by supporting the best ideas, regardless of whether they come from a Republican or Democrat. Joe was again recognized as one of the most bipartisan Senators. In March 2017, the Lugar Center and the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University rated Joe as the second-most bipartisan U.S. Senator. In December, the Lugar Center and McCourt School announced Joe is the second-most bipartisan U.S. Senator since 1993 and the highest-ranking Senator currently serving in the Senate.

Joe's office also continued to deliver on its promise of providing Hoosiers with quality customer service and assistance by helping constituents in all 92 counties to resolve issues with federal agencies, such as obtaining Medicare, Social Security, or veterans' benefits.

Among Joe's accomplishments over the past year:

- Joe visited 92 counties, and hosted or participated in 544 events and meetings in 129 cities and towns over 192 days in Indiana.
- Joe's office worked on 1,857 cases for Hoosiers seeking assistance with federal agencies, resulting in more than \$2.57 million in federal benefits returned to constituents.
- Joe's office heard from Hoosiers in all 92 counties and logged 687,508 contacts, including emails, calls, mail, and faxes.
- Joe supported over 70 grant applications for projects across Indiana and more than \$16 million in federal funding came back to the state with his support.

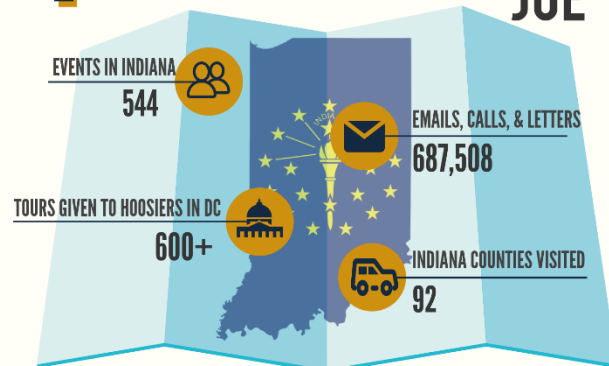
NWI Times: Donnelly earns top marks for bipartisanship from Lugar think tank

U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., not only is among the senators most likely to work across party lines in today's narrowly divided chamber, but a new analysis finds Donnelly is the second-most bipartisan lawmaker to serve in the Senate since 1993.

December 31, 2017

4 HIGHLIGHTS

2017 WITH JOE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights of Joe's Legislative Work Delivering Results for Hoosiers:

Implementation of Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Act: Joe's signature legislation has been implemented throughout the Armed Forces, including the Indiana National Guard. The law seeks to prevent military suicide by requiring all servicemembers — Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty — to have an annual mental health assessment.

Countering North Korea: Joe's provision requiring a comprehensive strategy from the White House to confront the threat posed by North Korea was signed into law as part of the annual national defense bill. The President also signed into law legislation Joe helped shape that increases sanctions on North Korea, as well as Iran and Russia.

Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act: Joe's bipartisan legislation with Senator Young (R-IN) to support law enforcement mental health programs passed the Senate and House. The bill was signed into law and will help law enforcement agencies establish or enhance mental health services for their officers.

\$11 million in Federal Funding for Indiana to Address Opioid Epidemic: Through the 21st Century Cures Act, which Joe pushed to enact, he helped Indiana secure nearly \$11 million in federal grant funding that will support opioid abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services across the state.

VA Prescription Data Accountability Act: Joe's bipartisan legislation with Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) to help the Department of Veterans Affairs more effectively identify and treat opioid abuse among veterans and their dependents was signed into law.

Vietnam Veterans War Day: Joe's bipartisan bill with Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) permanently designating March 29th as National Vietnam War Veterans Day became law. In March 2018, Joe will host an event in Indiana to honor Hoosier Vietnam veterans, many of whom did not receive the recognition they deserved when they came home following their service.

Wounded Officer Recovery Act: Joe partnered with Senators Jeff Flake (R-AZ), Rand Paul (R-KY), and Chris Murphy (D-CT) on legislation signed into law that expands eligibility of the United States Police Memorial Fund to include any U.S. Capitol Police employee seriously injured in the line of duty, like those injured in the shooting at the Congressional Baseball game practice in Virginia.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Improving Mental Health Care

SEXTON ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Last year marked the implementation throughout the Armed Services, including the Indiana National Guard, of Joe's signature legislative achievement, his Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act.

The law seeks to prevent military suicide by requiring all servicemembers — Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty — to have an annual mental health assessment. The Sexton Act is named for Hoosier Jacob Sexton, a National Guardsman, who took his life in 2009. Joe announced in November that the Sexton Act had been implemented at the Indiana National Guard, alongside Adjutant General of the Indiana National Guard Major General Carr and Jeff Sexton, father of Jacob Sexton.



One of Joe's top priorities as U.S. Senator is to prevent military suicides and improve mental health care for servicemembers. Since joining the Senate in 2013, Joe has worked non-stop to find bipartisan solutions to combat military suicide and make sure we take better care of our servicemembers and their families.

WIBC: Looking Them in the Eye: How the Sexton Act Could Save People

November 27, 2017

"Senator Donnelly's Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act has provided the Indiana National Guard a foundation to work from to identify Soldiers and Airmen who are in need of help and provide the resources as quickly as possible. Seeking help is a sign of strength, and we will continue to encourage help-seeking behavior while ensuring the resources are available so that our servicemembers can continue to serve proudly and be ready when needed."

- Major General Carr, Adjutant General of Indiana National Guard
November 27, 2017

"The Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act has increased access for servicemembers to mental health services. It is a smart move to leverage key opportunities to monitor the mental health status of our servicemembers. Every year we check servicemember's health status with a physical exam and now behavioral health questions are a bigger part of that annual screening. We're proud to say that the Indiana National Guard has fully implemented the Sexton Act. We're thankful for the provisions of the Sexton Act and to Senator Donnelly for his unwavering support of the military."

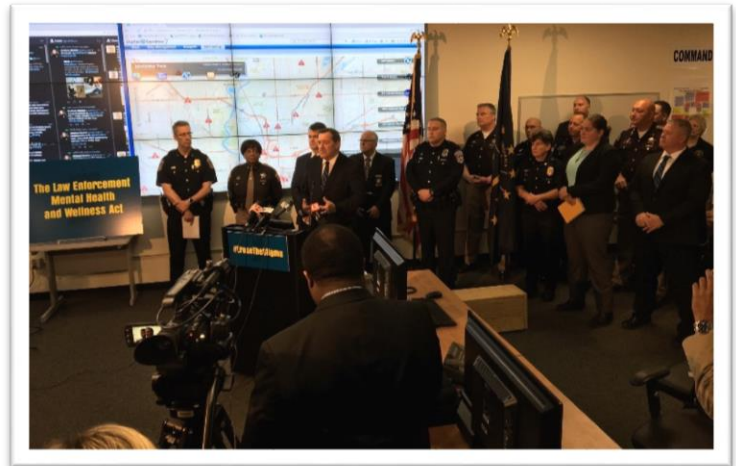
- Major Edwards, Chief Behavioral Sciences Officer of the Indiana National Guard
November 27, 2017

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IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Law enforcement officers put their lives on the line to protect and serve communities in Indiana and across the country every day, and sometimes it means they experience challenging or even horrific situations. That's why Joe and Senator Todd Young introduced bipartisan legislation to support mental health services for law enforcement officers. It passed Congress in 2017 and was signed into law.

In May, the Senate passed the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act, which will help law enforcement agencies establish or enhance mental health services for their officers. The legislation will make grants available to initiate peer mentoring pilot programs, direct the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services to develop resources for mental health providers based on the specific mental health challenges faced by law enforcement, and support law enforcement officers by studying the effectiveness of crisis hotlines and annual mental health checks. It will also direct the Departments of Defense (DoD), Justice, and Veterans Affairs (VA) to confer about existing DoD and VA mental health practices and services that could be adopted by law enforcement agencies. The U.S. House of Representatives passed companion legislation to Joe and Young's bill in November. The bill cleared the Senate on December 21, 2017 before heading to President Trump, who signed it into law.



WYRZ: Donnelly and Young Bill to Support Law Enforcement Mental Health Programs Heads to President

December 21, 2017

The legislation was supported by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), the Indiana State Fraternal Order of Police, the National Association of Police Officers (NAPO), the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA),

The bill, called the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act, makes grants available to create peer mentoring pilot programs. It also directs federal departments to boost resources for mental health, and calls for research on crisis hotlines and mental health checks.

The bipartisan legislation, authored by Indiana Senators Joe Donnelly and Todd Young, cleared the U.S. Senate with a unanimous vote.

WFYI, May 17, 2017

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the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the Sergeants Benevolent Association, and American Psychological Association.

PUSHING TO IMPROVE THE SUICIDE HOTLINE

Joe partnered with Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) on bipartisan legislation that would require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the VA to study the national suicide prevention hotline system and make recommendations to improve it. This would include determining whether to use a particular, easy-to-remember, 3-digit suicide hotline number to better connect those in peril to crucial crisis resources. The suicide hotline is currently a 10-digit number. Their bill unanimously passed the Senate in November. Joe's hope is that by evaluating the national suicide prevention hotline, the FCC will find ways to make it easier for teenagers, veterans, or anyone experiencing a mental health crisis to seek help.

**NWI Times: Donnelly wins unanimous
Senate approval for plan to study
nationwide, three-digit suicide prevention
hotline**

November 10, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Improving Care & Recognizing Sacrifice of Hoosier Veterans

NEW ST. JOSEPH COUNTY VA CLINIC

For years, many veterans in north central Indiana have had to travel significant distances to access the VA health care that they earned through their military service. In September, after nearly a decade of work, Joe and local veterans marked a major milestone at the grand opening of the new St. Joseph County VA Clinic in Mishawaka.

Since 2007, Joe has led the effort to make the clinic a reality for north central Indiana veterans. First as Congressman for Indiana's 2nd congressional district and then as U.S. Senator, Joe worked tirelessly with local veterans, the VA, and other community partners to secure congressional authorization and federal funding for the new health center in St. Joseph County.



He also worked with the VA and Transpo through 2016 and 2017 to ensure that public transit to the new clinic would be ready to go when the facility opened. That service started the week before the facility opened to the public, giving local veterans and clinic employees another transportation option.

NEW ANNUAL DAY OF RECOGNITION FOR VIETNAM VETERANS

Many Vietnam War Veterans did not receive the welcome home they deserved after returning from the war. In February, Joe and Senator Pat Toomey introduced the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act to permanently designate March 29th each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

The recent opening of the new St. Joseph County VA Clinic in Mishawaka marked the beginning of a new era for veterans' care locally. It's been a long journey. Veterans from South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart and other local communities have often had to travel to VA facilities in Chicago or Fort Wayne for more extensive medical procedures. Now, patients will be able to receive more services here...Work on the clinic began nearly a decade ago when, as a U.S. representative, Joe Donnelly began work on improving veterans' services here with the possible goal of building a new facility...Hoosier veterans in northern Indiana now are getting the care they need and a clinic they deserve.

South Bend Tribune editorial, October 3, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

The bill, supported by the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), passed both the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously and was signed into law by President Trump in late March.

The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act specifically honors Vietnam War veterans for their patriotism, service, and sacrifice.

CBS 4: Indiana Senator Donnelly co-authors bill creating first National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Wednesday marks a monumental day in U.S. history. Exactly 44 years ago on March 29, 1973, the last remaining American troops withdrew from Vietnam. Many veterans were treated poorly upon returning home because the war was unpopular, and they blamed the tragic situation in Vietnam on the troops. But 44 years later, those veterans are finally receiving official recognition thanks to efforts from Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly. Donnelly co-authored the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act (S. 305) with U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey from Pennsylvania. The Senate approved the bipartisan bill on February 8, and it was approved by the House on March 21. President Trump signed the bill into effect last night. The bill designates March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day, and it encourages Americans to display the U.S. flag.

March 29, 2017

IMPROVING VA DRUG MONITORING

In an effort to help the Department of Veterans Affairs more effectively identify and treat opioid abuse among veterans and their dependents, Joe and Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) introduced the VA Prescription Data Accountability Act. The bipartisan bill clarifies that VA is able to share data with state Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs). It will ensure that VA hospitals and clinics are in line with their non-VA counterparts and allow VA facilities to fully partner with Indiana's INSPECT and similar programs across the country to monitor opioid prescribing practices.

Bipartisan legislation introduced in the Senate by U.S. Senators Joe Donnelly (D-IN) and Mike Rounds (R-SD), and in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman Annie Kuster (NH-2) and Congressman Brad Wenstrup (OH-2), was signed into law today by President Trump. The VA Prescription Data Accountability Act will clarify current law to allow the VA to share data with state Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) for patients who are prescribed opioids by VA providers, including both veterans and their dependents.

WYRZ, November 22, 2017

The legislation passed the Senate in November and was signed into law by President Trump later that month. The law is supported by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Association of the United States Navy.

RECOGNIZING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDIANAPOLIS-BASED AMERICAN LEGION

In May, Joe joined with Senator Todd Young to lead a bipartisan group of Senators in introducing a bill to honor the American Legion, a nationally renowned veterans' organization headquartered in Indianapolis. The bill, which was signed into law in October, recognizes the Legion for its 100th Anniversary with a series of commemorative coins. Proceeds from the coin sales will support the American Legion's work on behalf of veterans and their families.

ENSURING A PROMINENT LOCATION FOR OPERATION DESERT STORM AND DESERT SHIELD MEMORIAL

Joe is committed to honoring veterans of Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield. Joe and Senator John Boozman (R-AR) have been fighting for more than four years to establish a national memorial in

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Washington, D.C., to honor the servicemembers lost in that conflict. In 2014, the national defense bill included Joe's bill to authorize the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield War Memorial.

In 2017, Joe worked with Senator Boozman on a bipartisan resolution, supported by the Secretary of the Interior and signed into law by President Trump in March, which ensures the memorial will be placed in a prominent location in the nation's capital. As the process to select a specific site continues, Joe has advocated and testified to the commissions involved in the final site selection on the importance of the memorial.

Veterans who served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm are one step closer to having a national memorial in Washington, D.C. honoring their service and sacrifice thanks to the efforts of U.S. Senators Joe Donnelly (D-IN) and John Boozman (R-AR). On Wednesday, the Senate unanimously approved the senators' joint resolution designating the location of the future National Desert Storm War Memorial on a prominent area near the National Mall.

WTCA, March 10, 2017

ENHANCING GI BILL REFORMS

When ITT Tech suddenly shut down in 2016, thousands of student veterans in Indiana and across the country were harmed and at risk of losing school credits they had earned using G.I. Bill benefits. Joe joined with Senators Johnny Isakson (R-GA) and Jon Tester (D-MT), Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, respectively, to introduce broad, bipartisan legislation to improve veterans' education benefits and enhance the post-9/11 G.I. Bill.

The bill, which was signed into law in August, restores G.I. Bill benefits to student veterans who were impacted by the ITT Tech closure, so they can continue with their new courses of study elsewhere.

The law also increases resources for educational assistance for veterans pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs, computer programming and career technical training. It eliminates the arbitrary 15-year period within which a veteran is required to use their G.I. Bill, giving veterans an opportunity to use their earned benefits at any time in their career.

STRENGTHENING VA ACCOUNTABILITY

As the Department of Veterans Affairs has worked to right many of its serious challenges in recent years, Joe has focused on ensuring that bad actors are held accountable for their actions.

Joe helped introduce the bipartisan VA Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act, which was signed into law in June, and will make it easier for the VA to fire employees guilty of misconduct or wrongdoing. The law also prohibits bonuses to employees guilty of wrongdoing and protects whistleblowers who report misconduct.

PUSHING TO PROTECT VETERANS' CREDIT

After hearing from veterans who were inappropriately billed for medical services received using their Veterans Choice Program benefits, Joe joined with Senator Mike Rounds (R-SD) in 2016 to introduce

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

the *Protecting Veterans Credit Act*. The bill would delay for one year medical debt from being reported to credit agencies for veterans who have accessed services through the Veterans Choice Program and other similar VA community care programs. The one-year delay would start when a debt collector sends the veteran a statement and would allow time for payment issues to be resolved without impacting the veteran's credit score. Joe reintroduced the bill with Senator Rounds in 2017.

Among provisions in the regulatory relief package are several Donnelly-led and Donnelly-supported measures that would benefit Hoosiers:

- **Protecting Veterans Credit:** This provision based off of Donnelly's bipartisan *Protecting Veterans Credit Act* would protect the credit ratings of veterans wrongly penalized by medical bill payment delays by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This measure would prohibit medical debt from services received through the Choice Program and other VA community care programs from being reported to credit reporting agencies for one year. In addition it would establish a dispute process for veterans seeking to remove adverse actions already on their reports.

WBIW, November 14, 2017

Several advocacy and veterans' advocacy organizations support the legislation, including the Consumer Federation of America and the National Consumer Law Center, the American Legion, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

In November, Joe's *Protecting Veterans Credit Act* was included in a bipartisan regulatory relief agreement that he, Banking Committee Chairman Mike Crapo (R-ID), and a number of Senators reached after several years of work. Joe's bill included in the larger package was just one of the consumer-focused reforms that he successfully fought for in the negotiation process.

STUDYING TIES BETWEEN OVERMEDICATION AND SUICIDE AMONG VETERANS

As our nation combats two terrible crises, the opioid abuse epidemic and the unacceptably high rate of veteran suicide, Joe believes we owe it to those who have served in the military to better understand any correlation between overmedication and suicide. That's why he added his support to bipartisan legislation from Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain (R-AZ) that would require independent experts to determine whether overmedication of prescription drugs through the VA, including opioids, is contributing to veteran suicide.

COMMEMORATING THE CREW OF THE USS *INDIANAPOLIS*

On July 30, 1945, a Japanese submarine sank the USS *Indianapolis* in the western Pacific. Of the 1,200 servicemembers on board, only 316 survived after four days afloat in the ocean. To honor the crew's service and bravery, Joe and Senator Todd Young introduced the *USS Indianapolis Congressional Gold Medal Act*. If enacted, the medal would be displayed at the Indiana War Memorial in downtown Indianapolis.

HONOR FLIGHTS AND VETERANS HISTORY PROJECTS

Over the last year, Joe continued his efforts to thank Hoosier veterans from across Indiana during four Honor Flight trips in Washington, D.C. In addition, his staff greeted six Honor Flight trips in D.C. and several in Indiana. The Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created to honor America's military heroes by sponsoring veterans' trips to D.C., where they can visit and reflect at their memorials.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

As part of his commitment to paying tribute to our veterans, Joe's office has hosted Veterans History Project events in collaboration with the Library of Congress. The effort aims to preserve the historic experiences of those who served in the United States military by recording their personal narratives and archiving them for use by historians, teachers, and the public. Joe's office held 10 Veteran History Project events across Indiana in 2017, recording 84 interviews that will be included in the Library of Congress archives.



WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Protecting National Security, Strengthening Missile Defense, and Supporting Indiana's Contributions to Our National Defense

Joe believes that protecting our national security is his first and foremost responsibility to Hoosiers. Joe worked effectively and led several efforts to protect our national security, including to: counter North Korea, Iran, and Russia; strengthen our nation's missile defense programs; and support and showcase Hoosier contributions to our nation's defense.

A STRATEGY TO CONFRONT THE NORTH KOREAN THREAT

North Korea under Kim Jong Un continues to be one of the most dangerous regimes in the world, putting our allies at risk and threatening the safety of our homeland and the lives of American servicemembers in the region. Joe takes the Kim regime at its word when it expresses a desire to launch a nuclear-armed missile at the United States. Joe has no greater priority than the safety and security of Hoosiers and all Americans.

As part of his efforts on the Senate Armed Services Committee, Joe proposed an amendment to the annual national defense bill to require that the Administration bring to Congress – within 90 days of the bill becoming law – a clear, comprehensive strategy to address the threat posed by North Korea. Joe's amendment was adopted and included in the bill. The Senate and House of Representatives both passed the national defense bill, including Joe's amendment, and President Trump signed it into law on December 12, 2017.

When President Donald Trump signed national defense legislation Tuesday, he called the threat posed by North Korea "a very bad situation – a situation that should have been handled long ago by other administrations..." Trump's administration is now on the clock. A provision contained in the \$700 billion defense bill requires his White House to produce a written strategy for dealing with the nuclear ambitions of North Korea and its dictator, Kim Jong Un. Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., introduced the amendment, which gives Trump 90 days after its enactment to report his North Korea strategy to Congress. That deadline is March 12.

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, December 14, 2017

LEADING BIPARTISAN ACTION TO SANCTION NORTH KOREA, IRAN, AND RUSSIA

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Senate Banking Committee, Joe is uniquely positioned to influence the development of strong, effective policies to counter our nation's adversaries, including the growing threat of North Korea's nuclear program.

In July, the Senate passed bipartisan sanctions on North Korea with Joe's support. That legislation also included the *Countering Iran's Destabilizing Activities Act*, which Joe helped shape and introduce in March with Senator Todd Young. The bill would increase sanctions on Iran in

WOWO: Donnelly, Young introduce legislation to "hold Iran accountable"

March 24, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

response to continued development of its ballistic missile program, its ongoing support for terrorism, and its increasingly aggressive behavior toward U.S. naval vessels in the Persian Gulf.

In response to Russian interference in the 2016 elections, confirmed by the U.S. intelligence community, the Senate also included in its legislation, with Joe's strong support, new sanctions on Russian entities, particularly on Russia's cyber-crime industry.

Joe was pleased that President Trump signed this bill into law in August to increase sanctions on North Korea, Iran, and Russia.

Donnelly helped shape increased sanctions on North Korea, Russia, and Iran, which the Senate passed and President Trump signed into law.

WTCA, November 8, 2017

PRAISING ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS EFFORTS AGAINST NORTH KOREA AND IRAN

In February, following a ballistic missile test, the Trump Administration announced new sanctions building on Obama Administration efforts to target individuals and entities involved with Iran's missile programs. Joe lauded the new effort, as he continues to believe that Iran's continued development of its ballistic missile program threatens America's allies, particularly Israel, and the stability of the region.

In September, Joe applauded efforts by the Trump Administration to increase sanctions on North Korea's financial institutions and trade activities. The actions aligned with Joe's calls to crack down on countries and entities that enable the rogue Kim regime.

BANKING SUBCOMMITTEE SANCTIONS WORK

Joe serves as Ranking Member on the Senate Banking Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance, which oversees our nation's international sanctions. Along with Subcommittee Chairman Ben Sasse, Joe held a hearing in May focused on pushing the Administration to expand sanctions and utilize more tools in the toolbox to punish North Korea for its missile tests, as well as those that aid and abet the regime.

In August, Joe and Senator Sasse continued these efforts, outlining for Banking Committee Chairman Crapo and Ranking Member Brown the findings of the subcommittee hearing and outlining key questions for future sanctions-related Banking Committee hearings.

In November, Joe continued his efforts to increase pressure on North Korea by helping the Senate Banking Committee pass the *Banking Restrictions Involving North Korea (BRINK) Act*, which included his amendments to help ensure the Department of Treasury has the tools and resources it needs to effectively enforce U.S. sanctions globally.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

SUPPORTING INDIANA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

Saving 90 Jobs at Crane Army Ammunition Activity

When it was announced that Crane's Army facility would lose 90 jobs due to a federal hiring freeze, Joe got to work to protect these Hoosiers' jobs. He met with the acting-Secretary of the Army in early February and sent a letter to Secretary of Defense James Mattis asking for Crane Army to be exempted. Joe was proud to fight to save these jobs and announced later in February that the Army had made Crane exempt from the President's hiring freeze.

U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly says more than 90 civilian jobs at Crane Army Ammunition Activity will be exempt from the federal hiring freeze ordered by President Donald Trump. The senator's office says the announcement is just the first round of exemptions and more could be on the way. Last week, Donnelly met with Acting Secretary of the Army Robert Speer about the exemptions at CAAA, which is a tenant at Naval Support Activity Crane.

Inside Indiana Business, February 6, 2017

Bringing Military Leaders to Crane

For the past several years, Joe has worked to show military leaders how critical Crane – both the Army Ammunition Activity and the Naval Surface Warfare Center – is to our nation's defense. In 2016 he brought then-Secretary of Defense Ash Carter to tour the installation, the first-ever visit by a sitting Secretary of Defense. In 2017, Joe hosted the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert Neller, at Crane. The visit gave Neller more knowledge of Crane's innovative work in the areas of expeditionary warfare, electronic warfare, nuclear security, and ammunition logistics.

General John Hyten, the Commander of U.S. Strategic Command, visited Crane in November at Joe's invitation. Joe is also working to grow Crane's work with the Air Force, with visits from General Robin Rand, Commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, and Lieutenant General Jack Weinstein, the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration.



Working to Protect Fort Wayne's 122nd Fighter Wing into the Future

Joe has long supported the 122nd Fighter Wing mission in Fort Wayne, both for the service it provides as part of our nation's defense and for the importance of the 122nd to the region's economy and community. In May, Joe and Representative Jim Banks hosted a roundtable in Fort Wayne for federal, state, and local leaders to discuss the long-term future



"I want to make sure that this commitment to maintaining a manned air combat mission at Fort Wayne will be kept," Donnelly, a committee member, said at the hearing.

"Senator, the A-10 is at Fort Wayne, and we have no intention of removing it," Wilson replied in a video of testimony released by Donnelly's office. "It's there for the foreseeable future, and they'll have that manned combat mission. We have no intention of changing that."

Pressed by Donnelly for a time frame, Wilson said, "We're keeping the A-10s for the foreseeable future..."

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, June 7, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

of the 122nd and how they can work together to effectively support the unit well into the future.

In June, at an Armed Services Committee hearing, Joe pressed the Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Heather Wilson, for her commitment that Fort Wayne Air National Guard's 122nd Fighter Wing will continue to retain an air combat mission well into the future. Secretary Wilson gave Joe that commitment, noting that the base will be home to the A-10, an essential tool in the fight against global terrorism, for the foreseeable future.

FIGHTING FOR HOOSIER PRIORITIES IN THE NATIONAL DEFENSE BILL

Each year the national defense bill provides an opportunity for Joe to continue his advocacy for Indiana's role in our national security. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Joe is able to help craft the legislation and ensure that Indiana's contributions are recognized.

New Facilities in Terre Haute and at Crane

The defense bill, at Joe's urging, fully funds a \$24 million military construction project at Crane Army Ammunition Activity in Indiana. The bill also provides \$8 million for a military construction project at Terre Haute Regional Airport, in support of operations of the Indiana National Guard's 181st Intelligence Wing.

The National Defense Authorization Act...includes \$8.5 billion for U.S. missile defense system improvements sought by Donnelly, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Donnelly's office said the bill also would fund a \$24 million construction project at Crane Army Ammunition Activity southwest of Bloomington and an \$8 million project at Terre Haute Regional Airport to support operations of the Indiana National Guard's 181st Intelligence Wing.

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, September 20, 2017

Flexibility for Military Labs, Including at Crane

Also thanks to Joe's efforts, the national defense bill codifies and makes permanent authority Joe has supported over the past several years to give individual military labs, including Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Crane in Indiana, permission to use 2-4 percent of their annual budget for things like in-house research, transitioning technology innovations to operational use, training and educating laboratory staff and making minor improvements or repairs to their infrastructure and equipment.

Expedited Access to University Expertise

The defense bill gives the Department of Defense (DoD) authority to establish new multi-school partnerships (via contracts, consortia, cooperative agreements or other arrangements) to make it easier and faster for DoD to work with key university partners on topics relevant to military needs.

Joe has worked with universities across Indiana, including Purdue, Indiana University, Notre Dame to create and strengthen opportunities for DoD to access the knowledge and expertise of their students and faculty.

The involvement of Purdue University in the WestGate at Crane Tech Park has quickly turned into a pair of cooperative agreements between Purdue researchers and the Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division (NSWC Crane). The agreements are expected to help save lives through improved communications and defense of U.S. Navy fleets and eliminating dangerous counterfeit laptops and other electronics...These agreements are bringing two great Hoosier institutions together to support our national defense and the safety and security of our service members," said U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly of Indiana, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee who helped facilitate the relationship between Crane and Purdue.

Washington Times Herald, July 27, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

In June, Purdue University and NSWC Crane announced a new strategic partnership, made possible in part by Joe's work to bring the two institutions together. He believes that we can get the best, most innovative solutions for our servicemembers by working in tandem.

Advocating for Robust Missile Defense Programs

Joe serves as Ranking Member on the Armed Services Strategic Forces Subcommittee, which oversees our nation's missile defense programs.

Joe fought for, and secured, \$12.3 billion for the Missile Defense Agency to strengthen homeland and regional missile defense systems that protect the United States, our allies and our troops overseas from missile threats, including North Korean and Iranian ballistic missiles.

And continuing his advocacy on behalf of our ally Israel, Joe successfully requested \$705 million to fund U.S.-Israeli cooperative missile defense programs, designed to thwart a diverse range of threats, from short-range missiles and rockets fired by non-state actors, such as Hamas and Hezbollah, to mid- and longer-range ballistic missiles in the arsenals of Syria and Iran. Cooperative missile defense is a vital component of our bilateral strategic relationship with Israel.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Combating the Opioid Epidemic

For more than three years, Joe has been a leader in the Senate bolstering new prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts in the fight against the opioid abuse epidemic. In 2017, Joe successfully pushed for additional federal funding to help states address this epidemic, and introduced several bills to help combat substance use disorders. These efforts include legislation targeting opioid abuse among veterans and Hoosiers in rural communities, and addressing the workforce shortage of substance use disorder health care providers. In addition, Joe successfully urged the Administration to maintain the Office of National Drug Control Policy, a key tool for Hoosier law enforcement and communities combatting drug abuse and trafficking. Joe also demanded answers from a leading pharmaceutical company about the dramatic price hike for life-saving medication used to respond to opioid overdoses, among other efforts. Joe believes it will continue to take everyone working together to stem the tide of this epidemic in Indiana and across the country.

WLFI: Donnelly leads charge in fight against opioid crisis

November 3, 2017

FUNDING TO HELP INDIANA CONFRONT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

In 2017, Joe helped Indiana secure nearly \$11 million in federal grant funding that will support opioid abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services across the state. The grant, awarded by the Department of Health and Human Services, was funded through the bipartisan 21st Century Cures Act, which Joe pushed for and helped to enact. Signed into law in December 2016, the 21st Century Cures Act included \$1 billion over two years to help combat opioid abuse across America. Each state determines how to spend the federal funding it receives, and the majority of the funding for Indiana is being used to expand access to treatment services. In addition, this funding is supporting efforts to enhance the state's prescription drug monitoring program, train doctors and addiction professionals on best practices for providing medication-assisted treatment, and expand the availability of peer recovery coaches in emergency rooms to help overdose victims connect with treatment.

WOWO: Donnelly: Indiana to receive \$10.9 million to fight opioids

April 20, 2017

Joe's provision included in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act—also signed into law in 2016—enabled Eskenazi Health in Indianapolis to receive federal grant funding for its outreach program called Project POINT. The \$376,274 federal grant will help Project POINT establish more shifts for its outreach coordinators to connect more Hoosiers who have received naloxone with treatment options, and help put them on a path toward recovery.

Donnelly has actively and effectively fought for new efforts to support prevention, treatment, and recovery programs. He helped get passed and signed into law the 21st Century Cures Act, which includes a \$10.9 million federal grant that will support prevention, treatment, and recovery services in Indiana. Donnelly also helped enact the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which included several of his provisions...

WAMW, October 4, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

ADDRESSING WORKFORCE SHORTAGE ISSUES

In an effort to help address the shortage of providers who treat Hoosiers battling substance use disorders, Joe introduced the bipartisan *Strengthening the Addiction Treatment Workforce Act* with Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK). This bill would help mental health and addiction treatment facilities in rural and underserved areas expand the number of health care providers by making these facilities eligible for the National Health Service Corps student loan and forgiveness program. Joe introduced this bill to help addiction treatment clinics recruit qualified providers, including nurses, social workers, counselors, psychologists, and therapists, who care for people struggling with substance use disorders. These providers must commit to working in a facility in an underserved county for two years in exchange for up to \$50,000 in student loan forgiveness.

Joe and Senator Murkowski also called on Senate leaders to do more to combat substance use disorders and the workforce shortage facing treatment providers in rural and underserved communities. They asked for more resources to be dedicated to the addiction treatment workforce shortage and for the reauthorization and expansion of the National Health Service Corps student loan repayment and forgiveness program to include addiction treatment facilities.



In recognition of his leadership in addressing the shortage of substance use disorder treatment providers, the National Council for Behavioral Health presented Joe with its Legislator of the Year award. The National Council for Behavioral Health specifically highlighted Joe's bipartisan legislation with Senator Murkowski. The National Council for Behavioral Health is an association of health care organizations that provide mental health and addictions treatment and services. It is made up of 2,900 member organizations across the country, including nearly 30 organizations in Indiana.

WDRB: Donnelly pushes loan repayment bill for workers at addiction clinics

Citing a shortage of medical staff in some Hoosier communities, U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly of Indiana pushed Friday for a bill that would expand a student loan repayment and debt forgiveness program to facilities that treat drug addiction. Donnelly, a Democrat, and Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska are the sponsors of a bipartisan measure filed last month that would provide up to \$50,000 for workers to repay student loans if they agree to spend two years at certain treatment centers in the U.S.

July 7, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

RURAL OPIOIDS PACKAGE

Indiana's rural communities have been hit particularly hard by the opioid and heroin epidemic and often lack access to the resources needed to help tackle this public health crisis, which is why Joe introduced a package of bipartisan bills aimed at combatting this epidemic in rural communities.

Joe's three bipartisan bills that would promote investments in local treatment facilities, telemedicine, and prevention and education efforts through the U.S. Department of Agriculture are:

Hoosier Ag Today: Donnelly Announces Package Addressing Opioid Epidemic in Rural Communities

July 30, 2017

Expanding Access to Treatment Through New Facilities: Joe introduced legislation with Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS), Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, that would expand access to treatment through new facilities. USDA operates the Community Facilities Direct Loans and Grants program to provide funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. These facilities provide essential infrastructure like health care facilities, police stations, and courthouses. Their bill would give priority to applicants to the program who want to develop facilities to provide substance abuse prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services. The bill also would help create telemedicine facilities and systems to provide telemedicine for substance use disorder treatment.

Increasing Access to Telemedicine: Joe and then-Senator Luther Strange (R-AL) introduced bipartisan legislation that would increase the availability of telemedicine to prevent and treat substance use disorders. USDA Rural Development operates the Distance Learning Telemedicine Program to offer grants to rural communities to help address education or medical provider shortages by linking them with teachers and medical service providers through telecommunication and information technology. Their bill would set aside 20 percent of the funding from the program to grant applicants that can use the funds for substance use disorder treatment services.

Prioritizing Grant Applicants in Rural Communities: Joe and Senator John Hoeven (R-ND) introduced bipartisan legislation that would direct USDA's Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program to give priority to applicants in rural communities that would use the grants for substance abuse education, treatment, and prevention efforts.

PUSHING FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Joe continued to push for the U.S. Senate to approve additional funding to help address the opioid and heroin epidemics. In October, Joe sent a letter to Senate leadership calling on them to bring more robust funding to fight against the opioid abuse epidemic. Joe also called on Congress to work in a bipartisan manner to provide the resources and funding necessary to combat the opioid crisis in December and highlighted reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that found the life expectancy decreased in the U.S. for the second straight year and that more than 63,000 people died of a drug overdose in 2016, a 21 percent increase over 2015.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Joe also called on the Administration to direct significant federal resources to help address the epidemic in Indiana and across the nation.

URGING THE ADMINISTRATION NOT TO ELIMINATE ONDCP

When the White House announced in February that it was considering eliminating the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), Joe pressed the President to preserve this key tool. ONDCP plays a critical role in coordinating federal efforts to combat opioid abuse and heroin use as well as drug trafficking in Indiana and across the country.

ONDCP also administers the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program, which supports and enhances cooperation between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to combat drug trafficking. In Indiana, Marion, Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties have received the HIDTA designation. Donnelly helped Marion and LaPorte counties secure HIDTA designations in 2016. ONDCP also oversees the Drug Free Communities Program, which provides grants to community coalitions working to prevent and address youth substance abuse. In 2016, 14 communities in Indiana received Drug Free Communities funds.

**WBIW: Senator Donnelly
Reiterates Opposition to Reported
Cuts to Major Tool in Opioid Fight**

May 11, 2017

KALEO PHARMACEUTICALS HIKE OF NALXONE INJECTION DEVICE

When Kaleo Pharmaceuticals significantly raised the price for its naloxone injection device—a life-saving product used to respond to overdoses—Joe demanded answers. The company raised the price of a two-pack in 2014 from \$690 to \$4,500. The device has the potential to help thousands of individuals survive opioid overdoses. Joe expressed concerns about the dramatic price increase harming the supply of the life-saving injector for families, first responders and others equipped to administer naloxone.

**WFIE: Senator Joe Donnelly
opposes life-saving overdose
drug price hike**

February 16, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Other Work

WOUNDED OFFICERS RECOVERY ACT

After the horrifying attack by a gunman at a practice for the Congressional Baseball Game, where two police officers were wounded in the line of duty as they successfully fought off and subdued the gunman, Joe helped introduce the bipartisan Wounded Officers Recovery Act. This was a joint effort in the Senate with Senators Jeff Flake (R-AZ), Rand Paul (R-KY), and Chris Murphy (D-CT) – all members of the Republican or Democratic congressional baseball teams. The bill was signed into law by the President and amends the United States Capitol Police Memorial Fund to expand eligibility to include any U.S. Capitol Police employee seriously injured in the line of duty. This fund previously only allowed funds donated to be distributed to families of officers killed in the line of duty. With its enactment, Officers David Bailey and Crystal Griner, the USCP officers who were wounded when they responded to the shooting, gained access to the funds.

WTCA: Donnelly's Wounded Officers Recovery Act Signed into Law by President Trump

August 12, 2017

MINERS PROTECTION ACT

Joe has been a vocal advocate for Hoosier miners and has pushed for a permanent solution to protect the health care benefits of retired Hoosier miners. Without action, the health care benefits they earned were at risk. Joe fought for the bipartisan agreement that was reached in late April to permanently ensure retired miners receive the health care benefits they were promised. Approximately 1,500 retired Hoosiers, primarily in southern Indiana, would have lost their health care benefits without this agreement.

WEVV: U.S Senator Joe Donnelly Speaks to Former Coal Miners in Oakland City

Indiana Senator Joe Donnelly makes a stop in Oakland City to discuss permanent solutions for retired Hoosier miners.

Recently Sen. Donnelly helped lead the push to pass a permanent bipartisan fix to ensure Indiana's retired mineworkers and their families continue to receive health care benefits.

May 12, 2017



PREVENTING SEXUAL ABUSE OF YOUNG ATHLETES

Joe believes amateur athletics governing bodies, like USA Gymnastics, have an obligation to athletes, parents, and the sport to ensure that athletes are safe. After an investigation in 2016 by the *Indianapolis Star* revealed widespread abuse of young gymnasts, Joe pushed for answers and accountability from Indianapolis-based USA Gymnastics, and then he worked with a bipartisan group of his colleagues on a legislative solution.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

The *Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act*, which Joe helped introduce and that passed the Senate in November, would require amateur athletics governing bodies to report sex-abuse allegations immediately to local or federal law enforcement, or a child-welfare agency designated by the Justice Department.

The bill would further authorize the United States Center for Safe Sport to ensure that aspiring U.S. Olympic athletes can report allegations of abuse to an independent and non-conflicted entity for investigation and resolution, and to make sure that all amateur athletics governing bodies follow the strictest standards for child abuse prevention and detection. The bill also would reform the law that allows victims to sue sex-crime perpetrators by extending the statute of limitations because it's often difficult for children to recognize that they have had crimes committed against them until much later on into adulthood.

Republican and Democratic senators gathered Tuesday to call on Congress to pass a bill that would better protect Olympic athletes from sexual and emotional abuse...The bill calls for the mandatory reporting of any abuse allegations by Olympic athletes. The bill also increases the statute of limitations for athletes to report abuse...Senator Joe Donnelly... co-sponsored the bill and spoke Tuesday at a press conference along with several gymnasts who have accused former USA Gymnastics staff of sexual abuse.

"We are going to push for accountability. We are going to push to make sure you're protected, and we will be with you every step of the way," Donnelly said. "This is personal to parents. This is personal to Hoosiers in particular, and we aim to improve the situation moving forward."

CBS 4, March 28, 2017

SENATE PASSES RIGHT TO TRY LEGISLATION

In early 2016, Joe first met Indianapolis resident Laura McLinn and her son Jordan McLinn—who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a disease that currently has no cure. Since then, Joe has worked closely with the McLinn family on legislation to allow terminally ill patients who have exhausted all approved treatment options to access certain investigational drugs for treatment. In January 2017, Joe and Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI) introduced the bipartisan *Trickett Wendler, Frank Mongiello, Jordan McLinn, and Matthew Bellina Right to Try Act*.

The bill passed the Senate unanimously in August. This legislation would allow families like the McLinns the opportunity to access potentially life-saving, clinically tested medical treatments.



Jordan McLinn is an eight-year-old boy with a disease with no known cure...The McLinn family helped get the "Right to Try" legislation unanimously passed in Indiana in 2015. Now they are working with U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly to get similar legislation, which allows families to exhaust all treatment options for a terminally ill family member, passed nationally. Donnelly's "Right to Try Act" gives families in every state who do not qualify for clinical trial, the ability to try drugs that have not been approved, but have passed the first stage of the Food and Drug Administration testing.

Statehouse File, August 10, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

CHANGE TO “HOOSIERS” IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STYLE GUIDE

Joe announced in January 2017 that the Government Publishing Office had changed the designation of Indiana natives to "Hoosiers" in the new federal government style guide. The style guide had previously used the term "Indianan." Joe and former-Senator Dan Coats requested the Government Publishing Office's Style Board make this change in 2016. The Government Publishing Office is the federal government's official printing office, and it is responsible for producing, publishing, distributing, and preserving information, products, and services in print and digital forms for all three branches of the federal government. The change means that all official federal government documents and products of Congress, the White House, and other federal agencies now refer to people from Indiana as Hoosiers.

Fort Wayne Gazette-Journal: Donnelly,
Young Announce Government Publishing
Office to Call Indiana Residents "Hoosiers"
Instead of "Indianans"

January 12, 2017

INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL PARK BILL

Joe led the introduction of bipartisan legislation in the Senate that would designate the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore as a National Park. As one of our state's most beautiful natural resources, Joe pushed this legislation to give the area the recognition it deserves, attract more visitors, and help further grow the economy in northwest Indiana. This designation would create the first National Park in Indiana and the 60th National Park in the United States. This bipartisan legislation has been a collaborative effort with Senator Young and spearheaded in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Visclosky (IN-01). In November, the bill passed the House unanimously.

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Grants, Projects, and Investments

GRANTS

Joe is committed to helping Hoosier communities, businesses, and not-for-profit organizations secure available grant funding to make a difference across our state. In 2017, Joe supported over 70 grant applications for projects across Indiana. For the year, more than \$16 million in federal funding came back to the state with Joe's support. If Indiana organizations and communities are not receiving this funding, then other states are given the opportunity to benefit from Hoosiers' tax dollars.

Burns Harbor grant: With Joe's help, Ports of Indiana was awarded a federal grant from the Department of Transportation for the Burns Harbor facility. The grant will allow the port to increase cargo operations capacity, implement new truck facilities, improve rail connections, and update the port's dockside infrastructure. This will contribute to economic growth and development in the region. **Award Amount:** \$9,850,000

Post-Tribune: Federal grant will fuel Port of Indiana \$19.8M expansion

Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor has received Congressional approval to receive a \$9.85 million FASTLANE small projects grant to help pay for its proposed \$19.87 million infrastructure expansion project, port and elected officials said.. U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Indiana, wrote a letter of support for the Ports of Indiana application.

November 3, 2017

Ivy Tech EDA investment: Joe helped Ivy Tech Community College secure an Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, to help establish the Precision Agricultural Equipment Technology Center of Excellence, a workforce training facility, at the Terre Haute campus. Joe supported the application because the Center will expand Ivy Tech's vocational training curriculum to include training related to planting crops, applying fertilizer, harvesting, and other farming operations. This facility will drive diversity in the local workforce and help stimulate economic growth. **Award Amount:** \$1,181,047

Brownfield Ag: Donnelly Helps Ivy Tech Secure Grant to Stimulate Ag Jobs

April 18, 2017

Indy Go DOT grant: The Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation—known as IndyGo—was awarded a federal grant from the Department of Transportation, with Joe's support. The \$1.45 million grant award will help expand electrical charging infrastructure, which is essential to IndyGo's plans to modernize its bus fleet to all electric buses. With the grant, IndyGo will also be able to reduce energy consumption, harmful emissions, and operating costs, while securing operational efficiencies. **Award Amount:** \$1,450,000

Evansville Fire Department AFG grant: With Joe's support, the Evansville Fire Department was awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that will help protect the safety and health of the firefighters working in Evansville's 14 fire stations. The grant will allow the Evansville Fire Department to install exhaust capture systems that will protect Evansville Fire Department firefighters from overexposure to highly toxic gases and reduce the risk that overexposure has on the firefighters' overall health and well-being. Joe visited the Evansville Fire Department for a "Donnelly Day" and simulated a fire rescue drill with several recruits. **Award Amount:** \$470,000

WEHT: U.S. Senator Helps EFD Attain Grant Which Could Extend Firefighters' Lives

August 29, 2017

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

Michigan City Fire Department SAFER

grant: With Joe's help, the Michigan City Fire Department was awarded a major Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award will support six additional firefighters at the department over three years. Michigan City's population doubles in size during the summer months due to tourism and needs this support to ensure fire and emergency medical coverage in the region. **Award Amount:** \$718,000

The Michigan City Fire Department has received a federal grant that will allow it to hire six additional firefighters. U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., and U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky, D-Ind., announced Friday that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has awarded a grant to the Michigan City Fire Department under the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program.

NWI Times, September 2, 2017

Wayne County Community Health Center HRSA Grant: With Joe's support, the Wayne County Community Health Center was awarded a federal grant from the Health Resources & Service Administration (HRSA). Joe supported the community health center's application for the grant, which will allow the Center to continue to provide healthcare services to Wayne County residents. The grant, for more than \$1 million, will be used to provide primary health care, behavioral health care, and dental health care services to residents who currently experience significant difficulties getting care. **Award Amount:** more than \$1 million

Vincennes Fire Department FEMA grant:

Joe supported the Vincennes Fire Department's application for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A \$125,000 grant was awarded that will help the department purchase new radio and communications equipment that are compliant with safety standards and implement a new training program. The fitness program is designed to improve overall health and wellness of firefighters as well as maintain fitness levels for a continual state of readiness.

Award Amount: \$125,000

U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly is bringing home \$125,000 for the Vincennes Fire Department. The grant is coming from a program under FEMA that aims to help firefighters throughout the nation. In Vincennes, the money will go to put in place a fitness and training program to make sure firefighters are ready to face the daily challenges of their service. It will also fund new communications equipment that's compliant with safety standards. The Fire Chief of Vincennes thanked Sen. Donnelly for his effort, and said that without this money, the department would likely be unable to buy that equipment or give firefighters the training they need.

WEVV, June 6, 2017

Jefferson Township Fire Department AFG grant: With Joe's support the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to the Jefferson Township Fire Department. FEMA awarded the Jefferson Township Fire Department a grant, which will help the department purchase needed equipment including a breathing air compressor, fill station, and storage cylinders. In addition, the award will help pay for 16 new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units, worn by first responders in hazardous situations where the outside atmosphere is unsafe. Without the units, personnel were at significant risk of injury. Until receiving this grant, Jefferson Township firefighters have had to rely on neighboring communities' departments fill stations to refill the units. **Award Amount:** \$139,810

WORKING FOR RESULTS FOR HOOSIERS

INVESTMENTS AND PROJECTS

In addition to federal grants, Joe also advocated for federal investments in projects around the state and worked to advance important local initiatives.

FAA Funding for South Bend International Airport's Customs and Border Protection Facility: As part of the South Bend International Airport's efforts to establish an international terminal and customs facility, the airport received \$1.3 million in federal funding from the Federal Aviation Authority to go toward its U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility. Previously, with Joe's help, the South Bend International Airport was designated a User Fee Airport, a required step in order to expand services for passengers to fly directly to-and-from international destinations. From there, the airport received federal and state funds and used airport funds to construct an \$11 million international terminal and customs facility.

Award Amount: \$1,300,000

New Carlisle Bridge Project: With Joe's help, the bridge project on U.S. 20 in New Carlisle resumed and was completed, following delays due to permitting, structural, and safety issues. The construction project began in early May and was originally projected to take no more than 30 days. Delays caused restricted access to downtown New Carlisle, negatively impacting downtown businesses and public safety. After hearing from a number of concerned residents, local elected officials, first responders, and business owners in New Carlisle, Joe requested that Norfolk Southern resolve any issues delaying the continuation of work on the U.S. 20 bridge in a timely and safe manner. Joe helped get the project back on track by coordinating with key stakeholders and coordinating with Norfolk Southern, INDOT, the New Carlisle Town Council President, and Governor Holcomb's office. After Joe's involvement, construction resumed in late June and the bridge re-opened in July.

New Carlisle Gazette: Donnelly Helps Get New Carlisle Bridge Project Back on Track

June 28, 2017

Pike County EDA Investment for Entrepreneurship & Technology Center: Joe supported Pike County Progress Partners' successful application for a federal award to help support construction of an Entrepreneurship & Technology Center. The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded \$787,000 in federal funding, and this facility will provide residents in Pike County and southwest Indiana with a new center where students, entrepreneurs, and start-ups can access training and a co-working space. This center will also create an innovative environment for developing ideas and launching new businesses. **Award Amount:** \$787,000

U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly announced Monday that, with his support, Pike County Progress Partners, Inc., has been awarded \$787,000 in federal funding from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to help support the construction of an Entrepreneurship & Technology Center in Pike County. The new center will provide a modern business incubator that offers co-working space, prototyping capabilities, and essential equipment for start-up businesses.

WTJS, October 17, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Strengthening the Economy

Joe believes the economy works best when Hoosiers are able to put in an honest day's work and take home a good paycheck that allows them to support their families, provide their children with a good education, and retire with dignity. That's why Joe works to ensure every Hoosier who wants a job can get a job. While Indiana's economy has continued to grow, too many Hoosiers are still struggling to provide for their families and make ends meet every month.

Joe has continued to lead the charge to keep good-paying jobs here in America, particularly in the steel and manufacturing sectors, which are vital to Indiana's economy. He has also worked to reduce regulatory burdens.

PROTECTING HOOSIER AND AMERICAN JOBS

Joe has consistently said we need to change our federal policies to stop the outsourcing of American jobs. We should encourage corporations to invest in American workers and communities, while penalizing those that send jobs to other countries. He has emphasized the need to restore the basic promise of America: if you work hard and help your company succeed, you should be able to earn a decent living and care for your family.

In 2017, Joe stood alongside workers from Carrier, Rexnord, and UTEC who were losing their jobs to outsourcing and announced his *End Outsourcing Act*. Approximately 2,200 Hoosier workers from nine companies around the state are or were scheduled to lose their jobs as companies including: Carrier and Rexnord in Indianapolis; UTEC in Huntington; CTS Corporation in Elkhart; Manitowoc Beverage in Sellersburg; and TRW Automotive in Lafayette shipped jobs to foreign countries. Stopping outsourcing and investing in American-made products should be a bipartisan priority as we work to expand opportunities for hard-working families across Indiana and the country.

Introduced *End Outsourcing Act*

This legislation would:

- ensure that federal contracting policy takes into consideration whether companies have outsourced American jobs;
- claw back tax incentives and prohibit companies from receiving tax breaks for outsourcing jobs and factories; and
- create tax incentives for companies that relocate foreign jobs to rural and low-income communities in the United States.



Donnelly is now pushing a bill he calls the End Outsourcing Act, which he says President Trump has promised to support. "I can't tell companies how to run their business," Donnelly said. "But I can make sure that if you want a federal contract, if everything else is the same, the company that's hiring American workers as opposed to shipping jobs overseas ... gets the contract."

April 13, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Since introducing the *End Outsourcing Act*, Joe has pressed the Administration to work together to advance these measures and called on the Senate to consider his legislation to address outsourcing. During a meeting with President Trump in February, Joe highlighted the need to protect Hoosier and American jobs and discussed his legislation. Joe also had dinner with President Trump in September and again discussed the *End Outsourcing Act*, for which the President expressed support. In addition, Joe met with U.S. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and economic advisor Gary Cohn to discuss efforts to protect Hoosier workers and keep jobs in America.

In October 2017, the United State Senate unanimously adopted Joe's amendment to the budget resolution affirming that the Senate believes corporations that ship American jobs overseas should not get tax breaks.

Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., said he talked Thursday with President Donald Trump about his legislative efforts to curtail the outsourcing of American jobs...Donnelly "highlighted the need to protect American jobs and his legislation that would reward companies that invest in American workers and penalize those that ship jobs to foreign countries."

Journal Gazette, February 10, 2017

FIGHTING FOR A TAX CODE THAT SUPPORTS INDIANA MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES AND PROTECTS AMERICAN JOBS

Joe consistently said reforms to our tax code should overwhelmingly benefit the middle class and protect American jobs. From the beginning of the tax debate, he was willing to partner with Republicans, Democrats, the President, and the Administration, and he agreed with President Trump's stated goals of supporting the middle class and keeping jobs in America. And, in October of 2017, the Senate endorsed a similar goal for tax reform when it adopted Donnelly's Budget amendment, which stated that corporations that ship American jobs to other countries should not receive tax breaks.

Post-Tribune: Donnelly: Tax bill hurts middle class, preserves corporate loopholes

December 20, 2017

Unfortunately, Senator McConnell's and Speaker Ryan's tax bill did not reflect the priorities Joe and the President discussed on numerous occasions, including when he traveled on Air Force One to Indiana—and that's why Joe couldn't support the bill.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

The McConnell-Ryan tax bill results in a tax hike for nearly a million Hoosier middle class families in the coming years, makes health care more expensive for millions of Americans, and does nothing to close tax loopholes like the one that allows Wall Street hedge fund managers to pay a lower tax rate than a Hoosier firefighter, teacher, police officer, or steelworker. In addition, the McConnell-Ryan tax bill also fails to crack down on corporations that outsource jobs, and even protects loopholes that allow corporations to write off their moving expenses when shipping jobs out of the country.

As Joe said, he was disappointed because Mitch McConnell's and Paul Ryan's tax bill represented a missed opportunity. Joe believes that our country is stronger when we work together and pass legislation that focuses on the middle class. While that didn't happen, Joe pledged to continue fighting for middle-class families in Indiana.

WORKING TO UNLEASH ECONOMIC GROWTH & REDUCE REGULATORY BURDENS

Joe, a member of the Senate Banking Committee, crafted and introduced a bipartisan regulatory relief agreement with Banking Chairman Mike Crapo (R-ID) along with several Senate colleagues. The bipartisan *Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act* passed the Senate Banking Committee in December and heads to the full Senate for consideration. The legislation would provide long-awaited regulatory relief to community banks and credit unions unintentionally burdened by rules intended to hold Wall Street accountable. In addition, the bipartisan regulatory relief bill would maintain the safety of our financial system and offer new protections to consumers, including veterans, by helping to protect their credit in the wake of recent data breaches, like the one at Equifax. In the past several years, Joe has participated in more than 20 Senate Banking Committee hearings to discuss economic growth and ways to reduce regulatory burdens, while maintaining consumer protections.

WBIW: Donnelly Announces Bipartisan Regulatory Relief Package To Promote Economic Growth And Protect Consumers

U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly, member of the Senate Banking Committee, announced that he and Senate Banking Committee Chairman Mike Crapo, along with several Senate colleagues, have crafted and reached a bipartisan agreement to reduce regulatory burdens on community banks and credit unions as well as provide new protections to consumers.

November 14, 2017

Among provisions in this regulatory relief legislation that passed the Senate Banking Committee are several measures, which Joe led and supported, that would benefit Hoosiers:

- **Community Banks and Credit Unions:** This bill includes a number of provisions related to community banks and credit unions that would increase their ability to extend credit to Hoosier small businesses and families, while maintaining important consumer protections. This proposal would allow small financial institutions to focus on traditional banking to help more families obtain the mortgage that buys their first home or the loan that starts a small business.
- **Free Credit Freezes:** Consumers would be able to freeze and unfreeze their credit in a timely manner, free of charge, and set yearlong fraud alerts. Consumers would also gain control of who can access their credit reports. The Federal Trade Commission and the major credit bureaus would be required to set up webpages where consumers could easily freeze their credit, set a fraud alert, and opt-out of pre-approved credit offers. Joe suggested this idea to protect consumers after the massive Equifax data breach that may have compromised the personal information of approximately 145 million Americans.

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- **Protecting Veterans Credit:** This provision based off of Joe's bipartisan *Protecting Veterans Credit Act* would protect the credit ratings of veterans wrongly penalized by medical bill payment delays by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This measure would prohibit medical debt from services received through the Choice Program and other VA community care programs from being reported to credit reporting agencies for one year. In addition, it would establish a dispute process for veterans seeking to remove adverse actions already on their reports.
- **Manufactured Housing:** This bill includes a provision based on Joe's bipartisan *Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing Act*, which would protect the ability of manufactured home customers to purchase affordable homes, while maintaining important consumer protections.

The legislation has broad support from organizations in Indiana and across the country, including the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Indiana Credit Union League, Indiana Bankers Association, Indiana Mortgage Bankers Association, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Bipartisan Policy Center, among others. The legislation has also received supportive comments from respected experts such as former Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, Federal Reserve Governor and Federal Reserve Chair nominee Jerome Powell, and FDIC Vice Chair Tom Hoenig, among others.

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RECOGNIZES JOE'S PRO-JOBS RECORD

Joe believes we should expand economic opportunities for businesses and families and it's important that our policies encourage job creation and support entrepreneurs and businesses. In recognition of his support for economic growth for Hoosier workers and businesses, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce awarded Joe the Spirit of Enterprise Award. Local chambers of commerce presented Joe with the award to highlight his record and he discussed his work to support Hoosier job creators, entrepreneurs, and small businesses in communities throughout the state.



U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly received the 'Spirit of Enterprise' award from the United States Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his support for economic growth for Hoosier workers and businesses.

WBIW, March 21, 2017

JOE RECEIVES AWARD FOR PRO-MANUFACTURING RECORD

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) presented Joe with its Manufacturing Legislative Excellence award for his

continued support of Hoosier and American manufacturing. NAM recognized Joe's strong, pro-manufacturing record during an event hosted by Hillenbrand, Inc. in Batesville.

Greensburg Daily News: Donnelly receives award for supporting manufacturing

"Senator Donnelly's strong track record of supporting a pro-manufacturing agenda is vitally important to companies like Hillenbrand," said Joe Raver, president and chief executive officer of Hillenbrand. "Manufacturing is critical to the strength of our nation's economy, and we are grateful for leadership that continues to help manufacturers compete in a globally dynamic market place."

March 10, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

JOE URGES AMAZON TO CONSIDER INDIANA FOR 2ND HEADQUARTERS

Joe, along with Senator Todd Young, urged Amazon to strongly consider Indiana for its future new second company headquarters (HQ2). Joe and Senator Young highlighted, in a letter, Indiana's robust and talented workforce, effective transportation infrastructure network, competitive cost-of-living and friendly business environment that has allowed Indiana to be the preferred location for a growing number of domestic and foreign businesses. Indiana continues to be recognized as one of the best states in the country to do business, and Hoosiers understand what it takes to make a business successful in the 21st century. Amazon received 238 proposals from cities and regions in 54 states and provinces across the U.S. and Canada and confirmed that the company will make its decision on HQ2 sometime in 2018.

**WFYI: Donnelly, Young Urge
Amazon To Choose Indiana
For HQ2**

November 1, 2017

SUPPORT FOR REXNORD WORKERS

For years, hardworking Hoosier families have worked to make companies like Rexnord successful. Joe believes the least we can do to support Rexnord employees whose jobs were being outsourced is ensure they have access to skills training and job-search assistance. In January 2017, Joe announced that Rexnord employees in Indianapolis were eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), federal benefits that are made available to workers who lose their jobs because of foreign trade. TAA will provide these Hoosier workers with additional benefits and access to skills training and job-searching assistance to help them find new employment. Joe cosponsored and voted to reauthorize and expand the TAA program in 2015, and that legislation was signed into law.

**Greensburg Daily News: Donnelly
announces Rexnord workers
eligible for federal benefits**

January 27, 2017

OUTLINES PRINCIPLES FOR NAFTA RENEGOTIATION

Joe has long advocated for a new trade framework that allows all Americans to benefit from international trade. Joe offered his continued support for increasing opportunities for Hoosier workers and farmers through the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). In a letter to the U.S. Trade Representative, Joe outlined a series of guiding principles for the Administration to consider and highlighted the need for proper congressional consultation during the renegotiation process.

Joe conveyed that this process provides a much-needed opportunity to establish a new framework for fair trade, which he has long argued is necessary to correct the broken promises of NAFTA and other recent free trade agreements. He also emphasized that international trade only works when everyone plays by the same rules and now is the time to put an end to one-sided trade deals and realign our trade policies to benefit America's hardworking men and women. Joe urged the Administration to consider the following principles during the renegotiation of NAFTA: leveling the playing field for American workers through robust and

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

enforceable labor standards that ensure strong worker protections; measures to prevent the outsourcing of American jobs; requiring federal contracts to give preference to American goods and services; tough penalties for currency manipulation in the market; and strengthening the ability of American farmers to export their products.

CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP AND IMPROVING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Workforce development and training are a path to good-paying, in-demand manufacturing jobs in Indiana and across the country. Joe often hears from Hoosier business owners, educators, and workers about the pressing need to have training available to match the needs of employers and help workers more quickly find good jobs. That's why Joe announced his support for the bipartisan *Leveraging and Energizing America's Apprenticeship Programs Act*, which would increase apprenticeships through a new federal tax credit to incentivize employers to bring on apprentices. During his visit to Allegion in Indianapolis on Manufacturing Day, Joe talked to Hoosier high school students about learning the skills necessary to get good-paying manufacturing jobs at companies in Indiana.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA'S STEEL INDUSTRY

While Indiana's steel industry leads the nation in steel production — accounting for more than a quarter of the steel produced in the U.S. annually — it has been hit particularly hard in recent decades. For generations, the steel industry has been a source of good-paying jobs for Hoosiers and is a cornerstone of manufacturing in our country. However, global steel overcapacity has threatened our steel manufacturers and workers, as illegally dumped steel from China and other countries has flooded the American market, dramatically lowering prices and unfairly putting American workers at a competitive disadvantage.



Joe continued his longtime efforts to advocate for Indiana's steelworkers and manufacturers. He hosted a roundtable discussion in Northwest Indiana with Congressman Pete Vislosky on the state of the steel industry in America with representatives from ArcelorMittal, U.S. Steel, the United Steelworkers, and the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI). Joe and Congressman Vislosky heard from key stakeholders about how the federal government can help ensure a level playing field for domestic steel manufacturers and steelworkers and ways in which the steel industry can grow and continue to compete in the global economy.

Joe also supported a national security investigation into the impact of steel imports by the U.S. Department of Commerce to help address the illegal dumping of steel from other countries into the United States. Joe believes we must ensure that domestic steelworkers and manufacturers are given a fair playing field to compete on.

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STANDING UP FOR MINERS: AMERICAN MINERS PENSION ACT

In Indiana, roughly 3,000 retired miners are receiving pension benefits, but without action, their benefits are at risk. As part of his long-term effort to support Indiana's miners, and to ensure that they receive the benefits they were promised, Joe worked alongside Senator Manchin of West Virginia to introduce the bipartisan *American Miners Pension Act*, which would help stabilize the United Mine Workers of America 1974 Pension Plan. This bill would ensure the necessary funds are available to keep the pension plan solvent. Joe has long been a supporter of important miners' benefits legislation—including helping get signed into law in 2017 a permanent solution to continue health care benefits promised to retired mineworkers across the country. Joe has also met several times with retired Hoosier mineworkers, delivered several speeches on the Senate floor on their behalf, and discussed the impact of the health care legislative fix during an event with retired miners in Oakland City.

ADVOCATING FOR INDIANA'S RV INDUSTRY

Joe has been an advocate for Indiana's RV industry since he served as Congressman for Indiana's 2nd district. Indiana's RV industry supports thousands of Hoosier workers and the local businesses that help provide opportunities to Hoosier families.

In October 2017, Joe and Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), co-chairs of the Senate RV Caucus, along with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH), introduced bipartisan legislation that would ensure the American recreational vehicle industry, as it continues to expand and create jobs in American communities, has access to the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) duty-free trade program. This bipartisan proposal would make a common sense change to ensure the federal government uses current data, as originally intended, in determining participation in a duty-free trade program. The Indiana RV industry and other manufacturers could potentially benefit, allowing for greater economic growth in northern Indiana.

Three U.S. senators, including Indiana Senator Joe Donnelly, recently introduced legislation aimed to make it easier for the RV industry to access the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) duty-free trade program.

Elkhart Truth, November 7, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Improving Public Safety

EAST CHICAGO

Since learning about the extent of the lead crisis in East Chicago during the summer of 2016, Joe has pressed Administration officials to ensure the safe relocation of impacted families and supported remediation efforts for the neighborhood.

Joe believes the federal government has a responsibility to help provide a long-term solution that protects the health and safety of the Hoosiers affected by the USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago. To that end, during the confirmation process for both Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson, Joe highlighted the importance of the federal response to East Chicago. In January 2017, Joe secured commitments from then-nominees Pruitt and Carson to visit East Chicago and dedicate the resources necessary to support the families whose lives were upended.

With the hope of providing Pruitt and Carson the opportunity to better understand the needs of the impacted Hoosiers, Joe hosted Pruitt and Carson in East Chicago, where they heard first-hand from those put at risk and uprooted from their homes, due to the lead contamination. Weeks after the August visit from Carson, Joe welcomed the announcement that HUD awarded a \$4 million federal grant to the East Chicago Housing Authority for the cleanup of the West Calumet housing complex. This came after Joe's work dating back to the fall of 2016 to secure emergency federal funds for the safety, security, and ultimately, the demolition of the housing complex.

In February 2017, Joe joined Governor Holcomb, as well as state and local officials to discuss how best to leverage federal, state, and local resources to respond to the situation in East Chicago.

Joe and his staff remain in regular contact with local, state, and federal officials, both on the ground and in their regional and national offices.



STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Advocating for Indiana's Agricultural Community

Indiana prides itself on a long history of agriculture excellence. Our state's agriculture community helps drive our economy and provides the food and fuel for families and businesses. Joe is proud to serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee to advocate for Indiana's farmers and promote conservation efforts.

FARM BILL LISTENING SESSIONS

In advance of the 2018 Farm Bill, Joe made it a priority to hold listening sessions to hear directly from members of Indiana's agriculture community on their priorities for the bill.

Joe held 10 listening sessions across the state and heard from Hoosiers involved in nearly every segment of our state's agriculture community. He kicked off the tour at the Farm Bureau headquarters in Indianapolis. From there he visited farms in Edinburgh and Vincennes, worked at a dairy farm just outside Fort Wayne, and toured a hog operation in Rush County. In addition, he had discussions at the Bartholomew County Fair and with 15 different organizations at the Indiana State Fair. He also listened to specialty crop growers in Jonesboro, heard from students interested in agriculture at Ancilla College, and learned more about the importance of the nutrition programs at Food Finders in Lafayette.



From his Farm Bill listening sessions, Joe's heard most about the need to manage and mitigate the risks associated with farming, and first and foremost that means protecting crop insurance. Joe knows it is critical for our farmers to safeguard their hard work from the uncontrollable risks of the weather, and he will vehemently push back against efforts to erode that backstop. Joe is also focused on improving commodity programs to better assist with down markets and ensuring conservation efforts are providing the tools the agriculture community needs to continue improving soil health and water quality.

Joe is fully committed to protecting market access for biofuels and expanding export opportunities for agricultural products. He continues to advocate for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard and works to make it easier for fuel retailers to sell E15 and other biofuels. To Joe, every gallon of biofuel produced from feedstocks grown on Hoosier farms means more jobs here at home. He is also working with his colleagues on proposals to open up more markets for American exports, including his bipartisan bill that would double investments in two

"We appreciate Senator Donnelly's efforts to listen to the needs of farmers and, more important, to advocate for Hoosier farmers whenever possible."

- Randy Kron, Indiana Farm Bureau President, January 27, 2017

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important export promotion programs: the Foreign Market Development program and the Market Assistance Program.

Joe also heard about the needed investments in broadband and infrastructure, so rural businesses can compete across the globe and rural economies can thrive. And he has heard from so many about the need for help fighting the opioid epidemic in our rural communities. That's why he is going to be pushing to include in the Farm Bill a bipartisan package of legislation that he introduced in 2017 that would promote investments in local treatment facilities, telemedicine, and prevention and education efforts.

Joe will continue to work tirelessly to advocate for Hoosier farmers. As part of the previous Farm Bill, Joe successfully pushed several measures that were signed into law in 2014 as part of the bipartisan Farm Bill.

In 2017, Joe held 10 Farm Bill Listening Sessions:

- **Indiana Farm Bureau in Indianapolis:** kicked off his Farm Bill Listening Tour at the Indiana Farm Bureau with members of Indiana Farm Bureau's Farm Bill Task Force, Board of Directors, and Women's Leadership Committee;
- **Steinbarger Farm in Edinburgh:** met with leaders of the Indiana Soybean Alliance and the Indiana Corn Growers Association, as well as local farmers and ag business leaders;
- **McCormick Farm in Vincennes:** met with leaders of the Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts and local farmers from southwest Indiana and toured the farm and its cover crop plantings;
- **Kuehnert Dairy Farm in Fort Wayne:** met with leaders of the Indiana Dairy Producers and area farmers, cleaned and operated a robotic milker, and reviewed data collected on individual cow habits, health, and production;
- **Foster Hog Farm in Rush County:** met with area pork farmers and leaders of the Indiana Pork Producers and toured the farm's farrowing and gestation facilities with owners Dallas and Meggie Foster, who are first-generation pork farmers;
- **Bartholomew County Fair:** met with members of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, Purdue Extension, the Bartholomew County Soil and Water Conservation District, Bartholomew County Farm Bureau members, and 4-H and FFA members at the Bartholomew County Fair;
- **Indiana State Fair:** held a listening session at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, hosted by the Indiana Farm Bureau, where speakers representing 15 Indiana stakeholders made comments and recommendations;
- **Red Gold Tomato Farm in Jonesboro:** helped harvest tomatoes and met with specialty produce farmers and ag business leaders;
- **Ancilla College in Donaldson:** met with Ancilla College agriculture students and faculty, as well as members of Indiana Farm Bureau and the Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts; and
- **Food Finders in Lafayette:** toured the facility and met with representatives from statewide anti-hunger groups about the nutrition section of the Farm Bill.

WSBT: Sen. Donnelly seeks input from local farmers in drafting farm bill

November 10, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

Joe knows that Hoosier farmers are a pillar of Indiana's economy and believes more can be done to expand international market access and increase opportunities for them to sell their products across the globe. That is why he has supported commonsense policies that would expand export opportunities for Indiana's agricultural community.

CREAATE Act

Joe helped introduce the bipartisan *Cultivating Revitalization by Expanding American Agricultural Trade and Exports (CREAATE) Act*, which would increase funding to U.S. Department of Agriculture export promotion programs and help U.S. farmers maintain an edge in the increasingly competitive global marketplace. The *CREAATE Act* would double funding over five years for two of the USDA's export promotion programs, the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development Program (FMD).

Hoosier Ag Today: Donnelly Leads Push for Export Funding

September 20, 2017

Agriculture Export Expansion Act

Joe has advocated for smart trade policies that would allow Hoosier farmers and businesses to compete on a level playing field as they sell their products to consumers around the world. Joe announced his support for the *Agricultural Export Expansion Act*, bipartisan legislation that would lift the ban on private banks and companies offering financing for the export of agricultural commodities to Cuba. It would also help agriculture exporters, including Indiana agriculture producers, sell their products in Cuba. This legislation would remove a roadblock and help boost Indiana agricultural exports in foreign markets by ensuring Hoosier farmers have access to the Cuban market and that the Cuban people can have access to products grown and manufactured in Indiana.

FARMING FLEXIBILITY

Joe has a long record of fighting to ensure Indiana's farmers have the flexibility they need to make the best planting decisions. He worked to start the Farm Flex program in the 2008 Farm Bill and successfully expanded it in 2014. Building on those efforts, he introduced bipartisan legislation with Senator Young in December 2017 that would continue to allow Hoosier farmers to plant specialty crops like fruits and vegetables without experiencing a permanent penalty to commodity program eligibility. The *Fruit and Vegetable Planting Flexibility Act of 2017* (Farm Flex) would continue the principles of the Farm Flex program, which allows farmers to plant fruits and vegetables by voluntarily reducing the amount of their acres eligible for Farm Bill commodity programs each year. The bill also would ensure that in the event USDA does a recalculation of base acres for commodity programs, USDA would maintain commodity programs eligibility for acres planted in fruits or vegetables through the Farm Flex provisions in the current farm bill.

WOTUS

Joe has advocated for years for a new WOTUS rule that is more workable for Hoosiers. He was pleased the EPA announced in June it was taking steps towards a new WOTUS rule. While welcoming the development,

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Joe reiterated that it's critical to get the rule right and stressed his willingness to work with the EPA and the Administration to ensure there's a collaborative effort with farmers, businesses, and environmental groups to ensure our water is clean and safe.

In April 2015, Joe and Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) introduced the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act*, bipartisan legislation that would require a rewriting of the WOTUS rule. It was voted on in the Senate in November 2015, but fell three votes short of advancing. That legislation would have struck a reasonable, bipartisan compromise, offered commonsense principles needed to shape a final WOTUS rule, and required straightforward procedures that the EPA would need to follow.

PUSHING FOR A STRONG RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD

Joe has long advocated for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), because he believes that supporting domestic energy production is critical to Indiana's economy and reduces our nation's dependence on foreign oil. He expressed concerns to the President in a letter about proposed changes to the Renewable Fuel Standard that would shift compliance requirements, referred to as the "point of obligation." Such a change would undermine the RFS and disincentivize refiners to make the necessary blendstocks to blend renewable fuels, which would affect other entities' abilities to

comply with the standard. This change could damage the agricultural economy in Indiana and weaken domestic energy independence. He will continue fighting for a strong RFS, so that it can continue to provide stability and predictability in our energy markets, creating jobs and economic growth across the country.

**Brownfield Ag: Indiana Senator
Vows to Fight for Renewable
Fuels Standard**

March 9, 2017

In addition, Joe expressed major concern about the EPA's 'Notice of Data Availability' considering possible cuts to biofuels blending volumes for 2018 and 2019. These cuts would undercut Hoosier farmers and biofuel producers who provide American-made energy, improve our domestic energy security, and support Indiana's economy. Joe called the EPA's move toward undercutting biofuels short-sighted and urged that we support renewable, American energy and not take steps that would undermine it.

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO EXPAND MARKETS FOR BIOFUELS AND EXTEND BIODIESEL TAX CREDIT

Biofuels are a critical component of an all-in energy strategy and American-grown energy that support farmers in Indiana, while improving our country's energy independence. Joe helped introduce the bipartisan *Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act*, which would extend the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) waiver to ethanol blends above 10 percent. This would increase market access opportunities for higher blends of ethanol. It would allow retailers across the country to sell E15 and other higher-ethanol/gasoline fuel blends year-round, increasing regulatory certainty and eliminating confusion at the pump. Joe also helped introduce the bipartisan *American Renewable Fuel and Job Creation Act*, which would extend the biodiesel tax credit, an important clean-fuel incentive, for three years. It would also reform the incentive by transferring the credit from the blenders to the producers of biofuels. The switch would ensure that the tax credit incentivizes domestic production and taxpayers aren't subsidizing imported fuel.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Strengthening Our Health Care System

Throughout the year, Joe worked to improve our health care system. He fought against efforts to take away health care from Hoosiers and to protect Medicare and Medicaid, led efforts to repeal the medical device tax, pushed for reauthorization of a vital program for children's health care, and fought to cut red tape at the FDA to make it easier to bring life-saving products safely to market.

'DO NO HARM' AND WORKING TO STABILIZE HEALTH CARE MARKETS

Joe believes that we can improve health care by working together, and at the very least the Administration and Congress should do no harm.

Joe repeatedly pressed for the Senate to work together to strengthen our health care system and opposed several partisan bills that would have taken away coverage, raised health care costs for Hoosiers, and ended Indiana's HIP 2.0 program as we know it. He also opposed the Ryan/McConnell tax hike bill, that in addition to raising taxes on many Hoosier middle class families, will make health insurance more expensive for millions of Americans.

In addition, the Administration took repeated actions to undermine the health care system, which resulted in premiums rising by an average of 20 percent for Hoosiers on the individual health care marketplace. In particular, several insurance companies that offer coverage to Hoosiers—including two that left the market—cited uncertainty as it related to the Administration's refusal to commit to making cost-sharing reduction (CSR) payments, as a key reason for increasing prices or leaving the market. CSR payments help lower consumers' deductibles and co-pays. CareSource, for example, told Joe in a letter, "If there was certainty that CSR payments would be made, we estimate that there would be a 2.2% rate increase, in aggregate, from our 2017 to 2018 rates."

**WIBC: Donnelly Urges White House
To Commit To Healthcare Market
Stability**

July 31, 2017

The continuous efforts to destabilize the insurance markets came after several analyses in early 2017 found the individual health insurance market was showing signs of stabilization and moving toward profitability.

Joe repeatedly urged the Administration to commit to providing stability to health insurance markets and working together on bipartisan solutions to reduce health care costs, expand access to care, and strengthen the health care system. Joe emphasized the importance of doing no harm and working on constructive, bipartisan efforts, including in letters to Hoosier Seema Verma—Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Weeks before open enrollment for health care began, the Administration announced it would end the important CSR payments.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

As the Administration worked deliberately to undermine health care, Joe participated in bipartisan negotiations and listening sessions with health care experts, led by HELP Committee Chairman Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Ranking member, Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) to help stabilize the health care markets. That effort led to the Alexander-Murray agreement that Joe supports, which would fund cost-sharing reduction (CSR) payments — which reduce consumers' deductibles and co-pays — for two years. It would also include funding to help Americans navigate signing up for health insurance, which had been cut by the Administration, and enable more flexibility for states without undermining essential health benefits coverage or harming Hoosiers with pre-existing conditions.

FIGHTING TO PROTECT HIP 2.0 & MEDICAID DURING HEALTH CARE DEBATE

As the Senate debated health care in July, Joe introduced and advocated for a motion to protect Medicaid, including HIP 2.0. The bill that was being debated on the Senate floor included drastic cuts to Medicaid, a program hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers use for coverage, including children, families, students, and seniors. It also would have ended HIP 2.0, a program Joe worked with then-Governor Pence to establish through the Affordable Care Act.

Joe's measure would have sent the Senate health care bill back to the Finance Committee to get the consideration it never received. It also would have required the Committee to strike provisions that reduced or eliminated benefits for those currently eligible for Medicaid, prevented states from expanding Medicaid, or shifted costs to states to cover that care.

Earlier in the year, Joe pushed to protect families and seniors from devastating cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, including HIP 2.0. He led the introduction of an amendment to protect Medicare against privatization and prevent changes to Medicaid that reduce state funding from cuts, as the Senate began debating repeal of the health care law. Joe emphasized his willingness to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, to strengthen our health care system; however, he said he would not support taking away health care from Hoosiers.



**WBIW: Donnelly To Offer Amendment
To Protect Medicaid, Including HIP 2.0
And Medicaid Expansion Nationwide**

July 25, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

MEDICAL DEVICE TAX

Joe has been a longtime supporter of repealing the 2.3 percent medical device tax on items ranging from surgical drapes and catheters to advanced imaging equipment. Joe has repeatedly said that one way to improve the health care law would be by repealing the medical device tax.

Joe helped suspend the device tax for two years in 2015, and has continued pressing for action to meaningfully address the device tax.

Among his efforts, Joe supported the bipartisan *Medical Device Access and Innovation Protection Act*, the same legislation he helped introduce in 2013 and 2015.

Indiana is home to many innovative medical device companies, which together employ more than 16,000 Hoosiers. Indiana ranked second in the nation in export of life science products, which include medical device products, according to Biocrossroads.

Democratic Senator Joe Donnelly... (has) voiced support for a permanent repeal of the Medical Device Tax.

Indiana Public Media, September 18, 2017

SUPPORTING CHIP REAUTHORIZATION AND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS FUND

Joe has supported efforts to ensure Indiana's youngest Hoosiers continue to have access to quality health care and community health care centers have the resources needed to keep serving Indiana families. To that end, Joe pushed for reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the Community Health Centers Fund, which both expired on September 30. He announced his support for the *Keep Kids' Insurance Dependable and Secure (KIDS) Act of 2017* and the *Community Health Investment, Modernization, and Excellence Act of 2017*, two bipartisan bills important to Indiana.

Approximately 115,000 Hoosier children have health care through CHIP and the Community Health Centers Fund helps support 19 federally qualified health centers in Indiana.

Without reauthorizing these programs, Hoosier children could lose access to health care and Indiana's federally qualified community health centers could be forced to make difficult choices, including reducing their workforce, imposing hiring freezes, or shutting their doors.

Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly, a longtime advocate for CHIP, said in a statement he "will continue to push for the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program by the end of the year. Nearly 115,000 Hoosier children are counting on Congress to act. If this vital program is not reauthorized, Hoosier children could lose access to health care."

South Bend Tribune editorial, December 8, 2017

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

40 HOURS IS FULL TIME

To protect American workers, Joe and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) announced the reintroduction of their *Forty Hours is Full Time Act*, which would change the definition of a “full-time employee” under the Affordable Care Act to someone who works an average of 40 hours per week. Employers across our country continue to make decisions to cut employees’ hours due to how the health care law currently defines a “full-time employee” – as someone who works an average of 30 hours per week.

Employers were required to make the law’s 30-hour standard part of their business, and as a result, some employees are limited to working fewer hours. Joe’s bipartisan legislation would help employees impacted by the current definition of a full-time worker and allow employers to use the more commonly accepted definition of “full time”: someone who works 40 hours.

Joe’s continued push on this legislation came after hearing from part-time workers across many industries — from school cafeteria managers to grocery store employees to adjunct professors at colleges — who have seen their hours cut to comply with the health care law.

AP: Donnelly: Raise ACA's
'full-time' work week to 40
hours

September 9, 2017

The Forty Hours is Full Time Act that was reintroduced is the same legislation that Joe and Collins first introduced in June 2013 and again in 2015.

CUTTING RED TAPE TO BRING INNOVATIVE MEDICAL DEVICES SAFELY TO MARKET

As scientists and innovators across Indiana and our country work to find new cures and therapies, Joe believes we should cut red tape at the FDA and make it easier for them to bring these products safely to those who need them. Joe and Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) re-introduced the bipartisan *FDA Regulatory Efficiency Act*, which would allow the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to bring innovative medical devices to market more quickly. The bill would authorize third parties to approve certain quality systems to expedite the safe approval of certain medical devices. The legislation would still hold companies accountable for their quality systems, while also helping to alleviate the overwhelmed FDA. Joe and Gardner first introduced the legislation in October 2015.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

Voting Rights and Reforming the FEC

SUPPORT FOR BIPARTISAN VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT

Joe believes the right to cast a ballot is fundamental to our country's values and what it means to be an American. It is a right that must be preserved and protected as part of our open and free democracy. As part of Joe's commitment to ensure that Americans' right to vote is not being denied on a discriminatory basis, he again announced his support for the bipartisan *Voting Rights Advancement Act*, which was reintroduced in the Senate in 2017. The legislation would restore voter protections that were undermined by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* in 2013. Joe supported similar legislation in the last session of Congress. He also visited Selma, Alabama, in 2015 for the 50th Anniversary of Bloody Sunday and participate in the marches from Selma to Birmingham alongside civil rights leaders.

WIMS: Sen. Donnelly supports
Voting Rights Advancement Act of
2017

June 27, 2017

REFORMING THE FEC

Joe knows that Hoosiers and Americans expect election laws to be followed and enforced. That is why he introduced the *Restoring Integrity to America's Elections Act*, which would reform the Federal Election Commission so it can carry out its intended mission to oversee campaign finance laws. In recent years, the agency has regularly deadlocked on major decisions. In 2016, 30 percent of all substantive enforcement decisions by Commissioners resulted in a stalemate, compared to 2.9 percent in 2006.

Journal Gazette: Donnelly seeks
FEC overhaul

Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., announced Tuesday he had introduced legislation to revamp the Federal Election Commission, which he said "has been undermined by gridlock."

August 1, 2017

Joe's legislation aims to reduce partisanship by creating a one-term limit for FEC Commissioners and changing the number of commissioners from six to five. It would also establish a blue-ribbon panel to publicly recommend nominees to the president to fill any vacancy on the Commission. The bill would delegate some administrative and investigatory responsibilities to the Chair of the Commission to allow investigations to proceed in a timely manner, while maintaining the requirement for a majority of the Commission to vote to initiate an investigation, take civil action against someone who has violated federal election law, issue advisory opinions, engage in rulemaking, and conduct investigations and hearings.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND MILESTONES

Special Events and Milestones

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE FROM THE U.S. NAVY

For Joe's dedication and tireless commitment to the U.S. Armed Forces, the United States Navy awarded him with the Department of Defense (DoD) Medal for Distinguished Service in January 2017.

The medal is the highest award a private citizen can receive from the department.

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Joe has worked to ensure our servicemembers have the best training and technology, and the resources they need to be successful wherever they are called to serve.



JOE'S GUEST FOR PRESIDENT TRUMP'S JOINT ADDRESS TO CONGRESS: DR. KELLY

In recognition of the dedicated healthcare providers who are on the front lines of the opioid abuse epidemic, Joe invited Dr. Tim Kelly, a leading practitioner of addiction medicine in Indianapolis and thought leader in the fight against the opioid epidemic, to attend President Trump's Joint Session to Congress in February.

Joe wanted to shine a light on providers like Dr. Kelly because of the overwhelming demand for treatment services and the professionals who provide them in Indiana.



SPECIAL EVENTS AND MILESTONES

HELPS CHRISTEN USS *INDIANA*

In April, Joe helped the U.S. Navy christen its newest Virginia-class fast attack submarine, the future-USS *Indiana*.

Joe joined Vice President Pence, then-Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean Stackley, and several veterans who served on the battleship USS *Indiana* (BB-58) during World War II for the christening.

The *Indiana* will have the capability to attack targets ashore with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and conduct covert long-term surveillance of land areas, littoral waters or other sea-based forces. The ship is a tribute to the great state of Indiana and the many thousands of Hoosiers who have protected our freedoms.

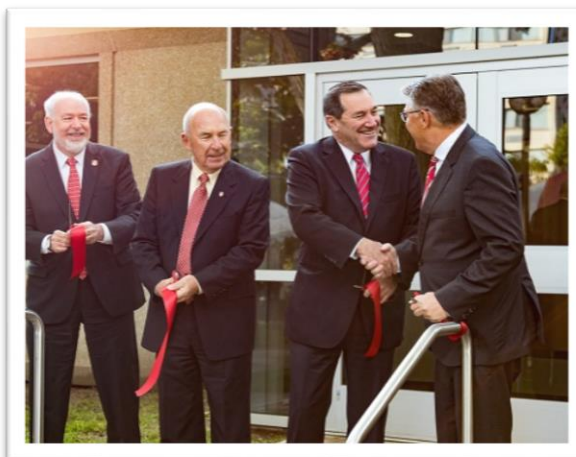


RIBBON-CUTTING AT IUSB RIVERSIDE HALL

In October, Joe was proud to participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony and speak at the dedication for Indiana University South Bend's Riverside Hall.

The facility was made possible in part because Joe supported IUSB's effort to secure a \$1.05 million federal grant from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

In 2015, Joe wrote a letter of support to HHS for the renovation project and expansion of the Health and Wellness Center. Together they will provide quality, accessible health care to underserved residents in the community, including primary and preventive health care services, dental care, and behavioral health services. Joe believes the expansion project is a great example of how, by working together, we can provide quality, accessible health care not just to IUSB students and faculty, but also to many more members of the South Bend community.



Hired Help

Joe works to ensure that all Hoosiers' requests, questions, concerns, and opinions are heard. Whether it's a casework issue involving a federal agency, a concern or comment on pending legislation, requesting a U.S. Capitol tour, ordering a flag to be flown over the U.S. Capitol, or helping communities and organizations apply for federal grants, Joe maintains a high standard of service.

CORRESPONDENCE

Joe heard from constituents in each of Indiana's 92 counties. Overall, the office logged a total of 687,508 contacts, including 590,578 (86%) received via email, 65,450 (9%) by phone call, and 31,480 (5%) from postal mail and fax.



CASEWORK

Joe's office opened and worked on 1,857 cases for Hoosiers in all 92 counties who were seeking assistance with federal agencies. As a result, Joe's office returned more than \$2.57 million in federal benefits to Hoosiers. The five most prevalent areas of casework in 2017 were with: Veterans, Social Security, Medicare, Office of Personnel Management, and Immigration. The following stories are a few examples of Hoosiers "Just Asking Joe" to get the assistance they needed.

Examples of Constituent Casework Success Stories

Harriet Ross, Indianapolis

After her employer, ITT Tech, closed and cancelled her insurance, Harriet Ross contacted Joe for assistance. She was unable to sign up for healthcare through the Health Insurance Marketplace because she had been without insurance for over 60 days, unaware she was not insured. Joe's office reached out to the Health Insurance Marketplace and, within a day, Ms. Ross was approved for a special enrollment period to sign up for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act, with retroactive coverage.

Jerry Morrison, Winchester

Jerry Morrison contacted Joe after being denied disability benefits by the Disability Determination Bureau in Indianapolis, due to a mistake made on his application regarding his stage-three Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Morrison would have had to wait 15-18 months to see a judge, but Joe's office contacted the Disability Determination Bureau and the Social Security Administration granted Morrison the disability benefits he was due.

Christine Frauendorfer, Plymouth

Christine Frauendorfer — a Desert Storm and Desert Shield, Iraq War veteran, and breast cancer survivor — contacted Joe after having difficulty scheduling her annual mammogram through the Veterans Choice

JUST ASK JOE

program. In the past, Christine had her routine mammogram performed in the South Bend area after a referral by the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System. However, when the Choice program went into place, she encountered issues scheduling her appointment quickly. Joe's office was able to contact the Fort Wayne VAMC on Christine's behalf and help resolve her scheduling difficulty in less than three weeks.

Peter Gillis, Granger

Peter Gillis fell and hit his head while on vacation in Cancun, Mexico. Upon examination at a local hospital, doctors suggested that Gillis receive surgery to put a titanium plate in his head. The Gillis family called Joe's office, which quickly forwarded Gillis' CAT scans to a doctor in South Bend. Because Gillis takes blood thinner medication, doctors in South Bend advised he return home and not have surgery. Joe's office reached out to the U.S. State Department and U.S. Embassy in Mexico, which advised the family to return home and helped them coordinate travel to get Gillis safely back to the U.S.

Terry Newman, Noblesville

Terry Newman, a disabled U.S. Army veteran, who has arthritis and heart issues, needed assistance from the VA to obtain his veteran's health care benefits. After nearly a decade of unsuccessfully trying, through calls and requests, to get VA assistance, he reached out to Joe's office for help. Shortly after Terry began working with Joe's office, the VA contacted him in writing that he was classified as 50 percent disability and had a primary doctor appointment scheduled. Terry was added to the VA's Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and received the correct disability benefits he had earned within six months.

Susan Couk, Lafayette

Susan Couk needed assistance in replacing medals for her brother's service in the Air Force. Susan wanted to have the medals replaced so her brother, Otis Walter Stair, who served in Thailand during the Vietnam War as an air traffic controller, could have the medals he earned during his service. Susan contacted Joe's office to secure her brother's lost medals. Joe's office reached out to the National Personnel Records Center to obtain a replacement set of all of Otis' military medals. Within a month, Susan had her brother's medals in hand.

TOURS

Joe believes that his office is the office of every Hoosier. When Hoosier families or schools visit DC, Joe and his staff work to ensure they have the best possible experience. Joe's office offers staff-led tours of the U.S. Capitol. In 2017, his office scheduled a total of over 600 U.S. Capitol tours for 2,771 constituents from 86 counties in Indiana.

FLAGS

Hoosiers can submit orders to Joe's office to receive flags that have been flown over the U.S. Capitol. In 2017, Joe's office processed a total of 288 flag requests for 563 flags for Hoosiers from 53 counties.



LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIPS

In 2017, four people interested in public service served in Joe's D.C. office and worked with the legislative staff through his Wayne Townsend and Frank J. Anderson Legislative Programs. This is in addition to the 56 interns who worked in Joe's offices across Indiana and in Washington, D.C.

The Wayne Townsend and Frank J. Anderson Legislative Programs were established in 2014 and named after two outstanding Hoosiers who dedicated their lives to public service.

Wayne Townsend, of Hartford City, was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives from Grant County and Blackford County. In 1970, he was elected to the Indiana State Senate and served sixteen years. Wayne Townsend passed away in 2015.

Frank J. Anderson, of Indianapolis served as a United States Marshal for the Southern District of Indiana and Marion County Sheriff. He previously served as Deputy Sheriff of Marion County.

These legislative programs aim to provide experience and educate future public servants on the legislative process and work on Capitol Hill. This past year, Joe's office had two Wayne Townsend and two Frank J. Anderson fellows.

- The Wayne Townsend program seeks a highly motivated, outstanding undergraduate or recent graduate with an interest in public service. The individual selected for the program will receive a stipend and must be able to work in Washington, D.C.
- The Frank J. Anderson program is designed to provide a highly motivated, outstanding individual who has an interest in military and defense issues, along with an interest in a career in public service, the opportunity to serve in Joe's Washington, D.C. office. The individual selected for the program will receive a stipend and must be able to work in Washington, D.C.

SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS

As a member of the U.S. Senate, Joe has the opportunity to nominate Hoosier high school students to attend one of our nation's service academies. In 2017, Joe nominated 30 young men and women for consideration for admittance in 2018 to the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. These Hoosiers hail from 18 different counties.

ENGAGING WITH HOOSIERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Engaging with Hoosiers on Social Media

Whether it's sharing good news about events and meetings with constituents or progress on his legislative work or spreading #GoodNews that's happening around the Indiana, Joe wants to utilize every opportunity to let Hoosiers know how he's working for them. Here's a snapshot from Joe's social media accounts over the past year.



/senatordonnelly



@SenDonnelly



@sendonnelly



10:22 AM - 5 May 2017 from Washington, DC



3:41 PM - 3 Oct 2017



sendonnelly This is eight-year-old Jordan McInn who just started second grade. Jordan likes to build things with his Legos, ride his bike and fire truck in his driveway, and play with his dog Charlie. Jordan was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a disease with no known cure. Joe's Right to Try legislation, which recently passed the Senate, would help Hoosiers like Jordan to try experimental therapies when they have exhausted all treatment options. Joe is hopeful the House will consider Right to Try soon.



The National FFA Organization members are the future of agriculture in Indiana and across the country. Their ideas and leadership will transform ways we feed the world and fuel our economy. I am proud of our FFA members and look forward to continued work with them. —Joe #FFAWe



sendonnelly Joe met with families from central Indiana to hear their concerns about how cuts to Medicaid proposed in the Senate health care bill would harm their children who rely on Medicaid for the treatments and care they need due to their complex or chronic medical conditions. Medicaid and HIP 2.0 is used by hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers.



Joe's bill to aid Capitol Hill Police injured in the recent shooting has been signed into law. He introduced it with Senator Jeff Flake Senator Chris Murphy, and Senator Rand Paul, all players in the Congressional Baseball Game. The officers will now be able to access funds raised to help with their medical needs after being injured in the Alexandria shooting.



Like Comment Share



sendonnelly Joe met with Avon Middle School South students visiting the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

ENGAGING WITH HOOSIERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA



sendonnelly
Camp Atterbury



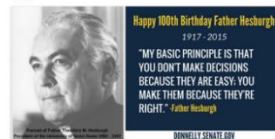
Like Comment Share

sendonnelly Joe visited Indiana National Guard members with Adjutant General Carr during training exercises at Camp Atterbury and toured the installation's new Wellness Center. He saw first-hand the services offered to improve the physical and mental fitness of Hoosier Guard members and how this groundbreaking facility can be a model for National Guard contingents across the country. On the Senate Armed Services Committee, Joe has been a leader in efforts to improve mental health services for all servicemembers - Active duty, reserve, and guard.

OCTOBER 14, 2017

Senator Joe Donnelly
@SenDonnelly

Happy 100th Birthday to an incredible leader & former @NotreDame President, the late Fr Hesburgh. His legacy will live on w/ us forever -Joe



11:01 AM - 25 May 2017 from Virginia, USA

Senator Joe Donnelly
@SenDonnelly

#ICYMI: Joe visited the McCormick Farm in Knox County to hear from farmers & conservation groups.



5:30 PM - 12 Apr 2017



Senator Joe Donnelly
@SenDonnelly - 11 Nov 2017
Joe held a Farm Bill listening session yesterday with @IndianaCollege agriculture students and faculty, as well as members of @INFarmBureau, and the Indiana Soil and Water Conservation District.

Senator Joe Donnelly
March 8

Today is #InternationalWomensDay, a time to honor and celebrate the contributions women have made and continue to make to our country and Indiana.



Like Comment Share

Celebrate
International
Women's Day
March 8, 2017

Senator Joe Donnelly
January 11

In Indy today, Joe discussed new legislation that he is introducing to help fight against the outsourcing of Hoosier and American jobs. He was joined by workers from Carrier, Rexnord and UTEC who spoke about the devastating effects outsourcing will have on them and their families. This is the latest effort in his years-long fight to prevent the outsourcing of jobs.



Like Comment Share

Senator Joe Donnelly
@SenDonnelly

Joe sent a letter to @USTRTradeRep outlining principles for #NAFTA renegotiation focused on Hoosier & American workers
bit.ly/2xbuw23



3:09 PM - 8 Sep 2017

Senator Joe Donnelly
@SenDonnelly

#ICYMI: Joe's 'Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act' has been fully implemented by the @INGuardman.



10:00 AM - 10 Dec 2017

Senator Joe Donnelly
June 3

#ICYMI: Joe hosted a roundtable to support the best possible future for the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne. He was joined by Congressman Jim Banks, Major General Carr, Colonel Renwick, Mayor Tom Henry and other local Hoosier leaders. <http://bit.ly/2sm1WGV>



Like Comment Share

MORE WISDOM IN INDIANA

Traveling the State

Joe believes there is more wisdom in Indiana than in Washington, D.C. Throughout the year, Joe continued to travel to every part of the state, and meet with Hoosiers of all different communities. In 2017, Joe again visited all 92 counties.

IN-STATE TRAVEL

In 2017, Joe spent 192 days in Indiana, during which he visited 129 cities and towns and all 92 counties. He hosted and participated in 544 events and meetings.

...he approaches his job with a blue-collar work ethic. He's careful to execute what one might call 'The Full Donnelly,' visiting all 92 Indiana counties each year.

Politico, December 5, 2017

DONNELLY DAYS

"Donnelly Days" started in August of 2014, as an opportunity for Joe to work alongside Hoosiers, hear their experiences, and better understand the issues most important to them. In 2017, Joe had a total of 15 "Donnelly Days" across the state, including those highlighted below.

Techshot

At Techshot Inc. and Techshot Lighting in Floyd Knobs, Joe helped assemble a Multi-use Variable-g Platform (MVP) payload that will be used to conduct research at the International Space Station (ISS), and used a torx screwgun to assemble a BATLITE made by Techshot Lighting, which is an LED light that is used in U.S. Army tents.

Purdue's Indiana Corn and Soybean Innovation Center

At Purdue University's Corn and Soybean Innovation Center, located north of campus in West Lafayette, Joe observed new phenotyping technologies for agriculture, helped collect information that researchers will use to develop better crop varieties, and helped assemble a UAV drone that is used for gathering information in the field.



MORE WISDOM IN INDIANA

Porter County Career and Technical Education Center

At the Porter County Career and Technical Education Center in Valparaiso, Joe worked alongside high school students learning precision machining, tool and die, and 3-D printing skills. He also met groups of students gaining skills in electrical and engineering fields, in nursing and long-term care, and in television and film production.

Meals on Wheels

Joe picked up meals from Eskenazi Health with Meals on Wheels of Central Indiana staff and helped deliver meals to several Hoosier seniors. He delivered a meal to a veteran living in Indianapolis, who suffered a stroke resulting in paralysis.

Robert Weed Corporation

While at Robert Weed Corporation in Bristol, Joe gained hands-on experience in recreational vehicle component manufacturing. He operated a nip line to secure laminate to plywood for cabinets and countertops to be installed in RVs, removed plywood cut by a Holzma saw, cut particle board for countertops and other decorative parts, and vacuum-framed counter tops and other decorative parts for RVs.

Evansville Fire Department



Joe geared up with Evansville Fire Department recruits and participated in a simulated fire rescue drill. With Joe's support, in May 2017, the Evansville Fire Department was awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA to install exhaust capture systems that will help protect the safety and health of the firefighters working in Evansville's 14 fire stations. These systems will protect Evansville Fire Department firefighters from overexposure to highly toxic gases and reduce the risk that overexposure has on the firefighters' overall health and well-being.

MORE WISDOM IN INDIANA

HOSTING HOOSIERS IN WASHINGTON

Joe spends much of his Washington, D.C., time meeting with Indiana groups including small business owners, labor leaders, school groups, local elected officials, and advocacy groups.

Below is a sampling of some of the meetings that took place in his D.C. office in 2017:

- Indiana Primary Health Care Association
- Association of Indiana Counties
- Indiana American Legion
- Indiana Civil Air Patrol
- Indiana Corn Growers Board
- Indiana Soybean Alliance
- Boys and Girls Club of Elkhart County
- Indiana Pork
- Indiana Electric Cooperatives
- United Mineworkers of America Indiana Retirees
- Independent Insurance Agents of Indiana
- Indiana Hospital Association
- Indiana State Poultry Association
- Build Indiana Council
- Hoosier Girls Nation and Boys Nation
- Indiana Farm Bureau
- Indiana FFA
- Indiana Members of the American Diabetes Association
- Indiana Sheriffs

Joe values the time he is able to spend with students from across the state visiting D.C. Throughout 2017, Joe met with 27 school groups.

He also hosted 24 constituent coffees in his D.C. office. While visiting the office, families, students, and groups get the chance to speak with Joe's staff, visit with fellow Hoosiers, and meet and take a photo with Joe.

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